

# Jordan Times

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جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

## Iraq says Arabs owe it \$1.5 billion

BAGHDAD (AFP) — Arab states owe Iraq a total of \$1.5 billion in unpaid debts, profits on investments and bank deposits, the Finance Ministry said Tuesday. A ministry spokesman, quoted by the official news agency INA, said Saudi Arabia tops the list with a debt of \$518.79 million. Syria owes more than \$400 million, followed by Bahrain with \$290 million. Kuwait with \$150 million, Somalia \$78.7 million, the United Arab Emirates \$16.87 million, and Egypt with \$2.23 million, he said. The debts also include the value of Iraq's oil exports via its neighbours before the U.N. sanctions were imposed in August 1990, after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Iraq's assets abroad were frozen under the sanctions.

## Minister says S. Arabia will pump world's last barrel of oil in 100 years

RIYADH (AFP) — The world's very last barrel of oil will be extracted from Saudi soil in a century or so, Oil Minister Ali Ben Ibrahim Nuaimi said on Tuesday. "Oil will dry up one day, after 100 years, more or less. But the last barrel of oil will be Saudi," he said, quoted by the official news agency SPA. The desert kingdom has 261 billion barrels in reserves, or 25.9 per cent of the world's total, and ranks first in terms of both reserves and production. Its current output is around eight million barrels a day.

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## Prince Hassan says EU willing to establish special fund for region

From Abdullah Hasanat in Budapest

HRH CROWN Prince Hassan revealed that Europe is willing to set up a fund to help develop the economy of the region, just before he returned home yesterday after visits to Turkey, the U.S., the U.K., Switzerland and Hungary.

In a statement to the press, before his departure from Budapest, Prince Hassan said that the primary goal of his visit was the realisation of Jordanians' political and economic aspirations.

His Royal Highness said "I can tell our citizens that we have conducted talks with officials in the United States and Europe, in which we felt their readiness to stand beside Jordan and to contribute in economical development."

His Royal Highness said that the European Union had expressed its readiness to establish a fund to support stability and the economy of the region, similar to that established by the U.S. last month and in which Jordan is to receive an additional \$100 million in American aid.

During his talks with Turkish and Western leaders, the Crown Prince sought to promote Jordan's interests, to campaign for peace in the Middle East and to share his vision of a new world order based on



HRH Crown Prince Hassan was greeted by HRH Prince Abdullah upon his return home Tuesday from a trip that took him to Turkey, the U.S., the U.K., Switzerland and Hungary (Photo by Yousef 'Allan')

human principles rather than the principle of force and power.

"My main concern was to further the welfare of Jordanians on all levels," the Crown Prince told Jordan Television before returning home.

Jordan's principled position on peace and its moderate policies and economic liberalisation drive are appreciated by the Kingdom's friends, Prince Hassan said.

That appreciation, the Prince said, manifested itself in the U.S. adminis-

tration's establishment of the \$100 million fund for peace and stability in the Middle East, and a European willingness to match the American initiative.

The Prince said that he has heard positive responses from the Western leaders and businesspersons he met during his visits and willingness to invest in Jordan.

He described his visit to Hungary as one that led us "to discover a new horizon, a new window for us," Hungary, a member of the Organisation of Security and Cooperation in Europe

(OSCE), is about to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and is applying for membership in the European Union (EU).

In his talks with American and European leaders, the Crown Prince reiterated Jordan's position that calls for comprehensive peace in the Middle East including the attainment of the Palestinians of their inalienable rights, most importantly their right to statehood with its capital, in Jerusalem.

(Continued on page 7)

## The Muslim Brotherhood decides to boycott parliamentary elections

### Islamic Action Front has two choices now, either abide by mother or go independent

By Francesca Ciriaci and Khaleel Shoubaki  
Jordan Times and Al Ra'i Staff Reporters

AMMAN — In a historic statement issued after an eight-hour council meeting started late Tuesday afternoon, the Muslim Brotherhood announced early morning today its decision to boycott the 1997 elections.

The official statement publicising the decision was signed by the Brotherhood's general supervisor, Abdul Majeed Thneibat,

who chaired the meeting.

One of the Muslim Brotherhood leaders said that the Council of Thirty, the Brotherhood's higher body, decided to boycott the upcoming parliamentary elections "to express the definite conviction that the political game in Jordan is no longer useful."

He added that the decision was taken because the Lower House of Parliament "is absent from all important political decisions, law-making, budgeting, or appointment in important posts of the state."

He asserted that the government "has been single-handed in their rule since the mid-1995, and has taken dangerous decisions contradicting the people's aspirations, especially after it had signed a peace treaty with Israel, with no political gains."

The source, who asked not to be named, also strongly pushed the one-person, one-vote system as "eliminating the parties' chances to achieve parliamentary majority," and accused the newly introduced amendments to the

1993 Press and Publications Law of "concealing information and hiding the truth."

The decision will have a great impact on the future policies of the Islamic Action Front (IAF), the Muslim Brotherhood's political arm, which, though financially and administratively independent, has largely conformed to the Brotherhood's political guidelines since its establishment in 1992.

Even though the IAF had

(Continued on page 7)

## Truce committee calls for restraint in south Lebanon

NAQOURA (AFP) — The international committee monitoring a ceasefire in southern Lebanon has denounced cross-border rocket attacks and called for respect for the truce agreement.

The five-nation panel said in a statement issued late Monday that it had "accepted as factual" that Israel and Lebanon-based armed groups, an apparent reference to the Iranian-backed Hizbollah, had exchanged rocket attacks.

The committee noted that Israeli fire injured four civilians, including a six-year-old boy who lost an

(Continued on page 7)

## Netanyahu completes cabinet appointments

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu Tuesday completed a round of cabinet appointments after three weeks of wrangling over jobs that left his government weakened and divided.

However, fresh trouble was expected from disgruntled Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon who was deprived at the last minute of the finance ministry and a place in the inner circle of ministers conducting the negotiations with the Palestinians.

Mr. Netanyahu on Monday gave the treasury to Yaakov Neeman, his former justice minister.

In completing the appointments Tuesday, Mr. Netanyahu handed the vacant science portfolio to Michael Eitan, a senior figure in the ruling Likud Party and coalition chairman in parliament. Another Likud legislator, Silvan Shalom,

was appointed deputy defence minister. After a year, Mr. Eitan and Mr. Shalom will switch jobs.

The appointments of Mr. Neeman and Mr. Eitan were to be submitted to parliament for approval Wednesday.

The crisis began three weeks ago with the resignation of Finance Minister Dan Meridor who said after a policy dispute with Mr. Netanyahu that he no longer had faith in the prime minister.

Mr. Netanyahu promised the finance ministry to Mr. Sharon. However, Mr. Sharon said he would only take over the finance ministry if he was also admitted to Mr. Netanyahu's "inner cabinet."

Foreign Minister David Levy and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai objected to Mr. Sharon's admission, and Mr. Levy threatened to resign.

With the choice of Mr. Neeman, Mr. Netanyahu solved the crisis with Mr. Levy and Mr. Mordechai. However, he made an enemy of Mr. Sharon, and political commentators predicted Tuesday that Mr. Netanyahu is storing up trouble for the future.

"Mr. Sharon is very witty and very patient," said Israel Radio reporter Yaron Deckel. "He will respond, but he will choose the time and place."

The United States also opposed a key role in the peace talks for Mr. Sharon and exerted pressure to keep him out of Mr. Netanyahu's inner circle, a newspaper said Tuesday.

Mr. Sharon, a former defence minister, is feared by the Arab World because of his hardline view on a possible permanent peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians.

## Iraq-Kuwait dispute dominates Arab Games ahead of opening

BEIRUT (AP) — Gulf war enemies Iraq and Kuwait have picked a new battleground, the eighth Arab Games in Beirut.

The Pan-Arab Games are not yet underway, but on Tuesday Iraq accused oil-rich Kuwait of using its money and power to try to eliminate Iraqi teams from taking part in the games starting Saturday.

Baghdad would be competing for the first time since the 1991 Gulf war, but Kuwait — which has not forgiven Iraq's invasion of the emirate — has threatened to boycott contests in which its old enemy participates.

Host Lebanon, caught in the middle, does not want to upset friendly Kuwait but is shackled with an Arab League invitation to Iraq to join in the competition, which runs through

July 27.

On Monday, when selections were made for teams in soccer, volleyball and basketball, Iraq's name was not included in the draw.

An official at the organising committee, speaking on condition of anonymity, conceded Iraq was "deliberately ignored in the selections in order to avoid a Kuwaiti walkout."

He said Lebanon, which has no relations with Iraq, did not invite it to participate. But Iraq says an invitation from the Cairo-based Arab League means approval of the host country is not needed.

Monday's draw was condemned by Babil, a government daily run by Uday Hussein, son of Iraqi president Saddam Hussein.

Referring to Kuwait without naming it, Babil said the organising committee

for the games "is a toy in the hands of those who have the power of money, thinking that by this power they can scratch the name of Iraq out of the records."

It was unclear if the committee would keep Iraqi athletes out of all competitions to avoid boycotts by Kuwait, which is a major contributor to Lebanon's post-war reconstruction.

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia were the only two Arab countries to fork out money — a total of \$26 million — to help in the \$75 million rebuilding of the war-damaged Beirut sports city stadium, site of the games.

The dispute shows Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait and the ensuing Gulf war in which U.S.-led forces drove out Iraq, the bitter war continues to affect

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## Kuwait says border guards have exchanged fire with Iraqi army

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwaiti police and some Iraqis exchanged gunfire across the border, which has been closed since shortly after the 1991 Gulf war, the interior ministry said Tuesday.

Ministry spokesman Colonel Bader Saleh said four to five Iraqis, some of them armed with machine guns, opened fire at dawn Sunday at civilians building a border watch tower.

Border police returned the fire, but there were no casualties on the Kuwaiti side, he told the Associated Press.

Several similar incidents have been reported in the past.

It was not clear if the Iraqis were civilians or soldiers, or if any of them was injured in the firing. No information was available in Iraq immediately.

United Nations observers patrolling a demilitarised zone along the 210-kilometre desert frontier said they have received a complaint from Kuwait and are investigating.

Kuwait has built a trench along its border to stop Iraqi infiltration, and is now building another one with barbed wire and an electronic surveillance system.

Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990. Its troops were evicted seven months later by a U.S.-led coalition that fought the Gulf war.

## 8 people die, 22 injured in border traffic accident

By Rana Hussein  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Eight people were killed Tuesday, and 22 more were injured, including two listed in critical condition, in a road collision near Rweished town, police and Civil Defence Department (CDD) officials said.

The crash, which occurred at 2:30 p.m., was the result of speeding and dangerous overtaking, traffic officials said.

According to the police, the accident which took place near the old customs building on the border with Iraq, involved a private transportation bus bearing Saudi Arabian licence

plates and carrying 30 Saudi Arabian passengers heading for Iraq, and a Jordanian truck coming back from Iraq.

The official said that the Saudi bus passengers were Shiites heading for pilgrimage.

Police said that the driver of the Saudi bus attempted to pass a car and crashed the trailer head-on.

"The accident's impact caused the instant death of the trailer driver as well as that of seven bus passengers," the police official said.

He added that the collision caused the trailer to burst into flames, and totalled the Saudi bus.

He noted that the trailer

driver, Suleiman Nueimat, 37, was burnt beyond recognition.

Officials were able to identify one of the seven killed in the accident. He was Ali Abdul Al Oqeili, 45. The names of the other six were not available.

According to CDD officials, the injured were rushed to the King Hussein Medical Centre and Rweished Hospital.

In December of 1995, eight Saudi nationals were killed in a road collision on the Azraq-Omar Highway.

Last year, traffic statistics indicated that 552 people were killed and 15,375 injured in 33,784 reported road accidents in the Kingdom.

## Top Israeli army official visits Amman in first ever visit to any Arab country

By Tareq Ayyoub  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Israeli chief of staff General Amnon Shahak, arrived here on Tuesday, the first such visit by an Israeli chief of staff to an Arab country since the establishment of Israel, Jordan Army officials said.

Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the Israeli general met with his Jordanian counterpart Field Marshal Abdul Hafez Mirai Kaabneh and "reviewed with him the peace process and efforts exerted to achieve a comprehensive and durable peace which will maintain stability and prosperity," Petra said.

Reporters were not allowed to cover the two-day visit and the general's different meetings with senior Jordanian army officials. Government officials were tight-lipped on the visit and refused to comment.

But Israel Radio said that General Shahak, who was accompanied by a senior military intelligence official, received an official welcome upon his arrival at the Army Headquarters.

The radio said the Israeli delegation included the head of the planning commission at the Israeli army



Israeli Chief of Staff General Amnon Shahak receives a gift from Field Marshal Abdul Hafez Mirai Kaabneh during his visit to Amman. No Israeli chief of staff has ever visited an Arab country before (AFP photo)

and chairman of the liaison unit with foreign forces. It also included Israeli air and sea forces officials.

The radio said that the general attended a military training exercise by some army units of the Jordanian Army.

Jordanian Army officials, who cannot be named under standing regulations, told the Jordan Times that

Gen. Shahak visited the King Faisal Air Force Base in Azraq.

The officials said that Gen. Shahak may meet with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, who is also the defence minister.

The Associated Press quoted the spokesman of the Israeli embassy in Amman, Shalom Tourge-man, as saying that during

General Shahak's visit, he discussed "cooperation and closer relations between the armies of the two countries."

Gen. Shahak's visit to the Kingdom came amid Israeli news reports claiming an aide to Field Marshal Kaabneh, Lieutenant General

(Continued on page 7)



## Rashid says election on time unless King delays from one to two years

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Interior Nuhir Rashid on Monday said that the parliamentary elections will be held in time unless His Majesty King Hussein extends the present mandate of Parliament to at least one year or within a maximum of two years.

Speaking on a programme aired Monday by Jordan Television, Mr. Rashid said that according to Article 34 of the Jordanian Constitution, the King issues orders to hold parliamentary elections four months before the end of the mandate of the present Parliament and that the Council of Ministers has the power to call a certain date for these elections.

The minister said that the elections will be fair and that each citizen who is eligible to vote should exercise his/her right on the day of elections to turn out a Parliament that represents the people.

"People should elect those whom they think would address their causes and problems and adhere to their slogans during their election campaign," said Mr. Rashid.

He said that Jordan has qualified cadres who can supervise and control the general elections and that inviting international

observers to these elections is something that touches upon the Kingdom's sovereignty.

"We have qualified persons who can adhere to their responsibilities and represent their voters, so I urge Jordanians to elect those whom they trust and believe will address their problems. As for international observers, I think it is an internal affair and we do not mind them attending such elections although this harms our national sovereignty and cultural image," said Mr. Rashid.

In reply to a question on Jordanian parties, the minister said that the issue has been brought up in the last few months, particularly in the newspapers, claimed the ministry would inspect and control the performance of all Jordanian parties with no exception.

Mr. Rashid continued that this is not true because, according to the Constitution, the ministry has the right to inspect the financial budgets of parties and check whether they are receiving any remittances from external parties.

The minister said: "According to the Constitution, Article 16 stipulates that the parties should be supported financially by Jordanians in the Kingdom

and each member of any party can pay up to JD5,000 annually."

"All these parties should submit their annual financial budgets to the ministry and that the minister has the right to appoint a comptroller to inspect the budgets of the parties, which is what has happened, and we found some violations which were referred to the supreme court," he added.

In reply to a question about professional associations, the minister said that professional associations turned out to be political which was crystal clear in the last few months when the Ministry of Information amended the Press and Publications Law.

"We are not against the parties nor the associations but when the associations carried out a sit-in, they ignored that they should first apply for their sit-in to the governor who in turn approves or disapproves," said Mr. Rashid.

"We should not be informed by newspapers that such a sit-in is going to take place here or there on a certain date. We live in a state of the law," added the minister.

Asked about the measures taken by the government to stop

citizen encroachment on governmental lands, the minister said: "This has been a problem for the past few years but we interfere when we have orders from the court which was actually the case in the Jordan Valley."

Commenting on what has been published in the local press about closing down shops because their owners pasted posters carrying words that "Israelis are not allowed in," Mr. Rashid said: "We did not take any measure by ourselves, but we received information and complaints from the Israeli embassy in Amman asking us to take suitable measures."

On governmental bureaucracy, the minister said that he himself has found some clerks hiding official forms and applications submitted by citizens in drawers but this issue has been solved and everything is settled and under control.

"Some forms dated back to 1996 and were kept in drawers. We inspected them and sacked those involved," said the minister, noting that government transactions nowadays do not take more than three days to finish, whatever they are.



French delegates to the international committee monitoring the cease-fire agreement in south Lebanon arrive at the UNFICIL headquarters in Lebanon, Monday. The committee is due to discuss a Lebanese complaint regarding the injury of seven Lebanese civilians in an Israeli bombardment on south Lebanon on Sunday (AFP photo)

## Egypt bars Israeli spy suspect from contacting codefendant

CAIRO (AFP) — An Israeli on trial for spying for Israel has been barred from contacting his Egyptian codefendant by prison authorities here, a judicial source said on Tuesday.

The decision follows a written complaint by the Egyptian, Emad Ismail, that Israeli Druze Azzam Azzam had offered "a large sum of money if he retracted his confessions," the source said, without elaborating.

Azzam, a 34-year-old engineer who was working for an Israeli textile firm in

Cairo, and Ismail, a colleague, have pleaded not guilty to charges of spying for Israel. Both were arrested late last year.

The prison in Tora, a suburb south of Cairo, has changed the timetables for the two accused to prevent them from meeting during exercise sessions, and has already put them in separate cells.

At the latest hearing last month, the Egyptian prosecutor asked the Cairo State Security Court to jail Azzam for 15 years with

hard labour and a similar 25-year sentence for Ismail.

The court has heard testimony that Azzam had passed on clothes to Ismail which contained sensitive information written in invisible ink.

Two Arab Israeli women, Zahra Youssef Jeris and Mona Ahmed Shawahna, are also being tried in their absence for having recruited Ismail for the Israeli intelligence service, Mossad.

The next hearing is due July 19.

## Iraq receives new food cargo

BAGHDAD (AFP) — A new cargo of food supplies has arrived in sanctions-hit Iraq under the U.N. oil-for-food accord, which has fallen behind schedule, official newspapers reported Tuesday.

The cargo of 1,734 tonnes of cooking oil arrived Sunday in the southern port of Umm Qasr on the Gulf. The supplies are to be added to the rationing system in force since the sanctions were imposed almost seven years ago.

The latest delivery was part of the contracts which Iraq sealed for the first term of the oil-for-food accord, which was renewed for a second six-month term in June.

Under the humanitarian exemption to the U.N. imposed sanctions, Iraq is entitled to export two billion dollars worth of oil every six months to finance imports of food and medicine.

But Iraq, which has been under embargo since its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, has suspended the crude exports pending agreement on a new food distribution for the second term.

Baghdad, which accuses Washington of delaying U.N. approval of Iraq's food and medicine contracts, has received only just over one million tonnes of the 2.3 million tonnes of supplies it financed with the first-term crude imports.

## Turkey's Erbakan slams Yilmaz for avoiding polls

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's former Islamist Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan on Tuesday criticised the new secularist government for not fixing a date for early elections in its programme of action read out in parliament.

"There was nothing about an election of course because it is a Cankaya government that is trying to avoid the polls," Mr.

Erbakan told a meeting of his Welfare Party MPs.

Mr. Erbakan lost power last month in a bungled power transfer that followed months of army pressure on his Islamist-led coalition. He says President Suleyman Demirel helped oust him after talks with the opposition in the Cankaya Presidential Palace.

New Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz outlined anti-

Islamist measures in a keynote speech to MPs on Monday but he did not mention a previous promise to hold early elections next year. Commentators say the Islamists would benefit from snap polls.

Mr. Erbakan, Turkey's first Islamist leader, predicted Mr. Yilmaz would lose a parliamentary confidence vote at the weekend.

"This government will

never get a vote of confidence from this parliament. The parliament will not play the game," he said.

The government is widely expected to win the vote. Mr. Yilmaz and his allies have around a dozen deputies on paper than the opposition, a rough alliance between Mr. Erbakan, his conservative former coalition partners and a far-right group.

## 8 European tourists, Egyptian die in crash

CAIRO (AP) — A tourist bus collided with a semi-trailer truck in southern Egypt on Tuesday, killing at least eight foreign tourists and an Egyptian, police said Tuesday.

Egyptian Television said that six of the foreigners were from the Netherlands and two were from Belgium.

Police said one Egyptian was among the dead, but the television — which has a film crew in the area — said as many as five Egyptians could be dead.

Police said that rescue

workers were using blow torches to cut apart the wreckage of the bus to search for survivors.

Police said at least a dozen tourists and three Egyptians were injured.

The collision occurred about 150 kilometres south of Aswan. The tourists had been on route from Abu Simbal, they said.

Aswan, which is 700 kilometres south of Cairo, is known for its Pharaonic temples and tombs. Abu Simbal, home to ancient temples built by Pharaoh Ramses II, lies about 230

kilometres southwest of Aswan.

Police said that the truck and bus were on a very narrow stretch of road and that the truck apparently hit the bus, crushing it on impact.

Police said there were 35 people on the bus and that they believed there were two people in the truck.

An official at the Dutch embassy in Cairo confirmed that it had reports several Dutch nationals were killed in a bus crash. The diplomat said a team was being dispatched to the scene.

## Kuwaiti finance minister to be grilled next week

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — Kuwait's Finance Minister Nasser Rodhan agreed Tuesday to face questioning in parliament next week over his alleged mismanagement of public funds.

Three MPs have submitted documents against the minister and called for a formal questioning, charging that Mr. Rodhan failed to implement laws to protect public funds and prevent the misuse of public property.

Mr. Rodhan, who could have asked for up to two weeks delay, said the grilling could go ahead Tuesday.

"I read and reviewed the interpellation and was surprised at the contents," the minister, who is also deputy prime minister, told members of the National Assembly, or parliament.

He said the documents accused him of "negligence and laxity in implementing laws and even allowing the squandering of public

funds," but said it was the constitutional right of any MP to question a minister.

"Therefore, I will undertake to respond to everything in the interpellation, stressing that I always have and will continue to protect the public funds," the minister said.

The questioning could lead to Mr. Rodhan's resignation if at least 10 MPs file a motion of no confidence against him and win the support of a majority of MPs, excluding cabinet members.

Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Ahmad Sabah has given Mr. Rodhan the full backing of the government.

Mr. Rodhan was appointed finance minister and deputy prime minister in 1992, taking a seat in parliament as an unelected cabinet member.

He previously held the commerce and industry portfolio. In 1985, the then justice minister resigned after losing a confidence vote.

## Assassin says luck saved Saddam's Uday

LONDON (AFP) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's eldest son Uday, the target of assassins' bullets in December, survived the attack because he changed places with his driver at the last moment, a leader of the assassination squad said in an interview published here Tuesday.

Ismail Othman, an Iraqi hiding in a European capital, told the Independent daily that at first his group called Al Naddah had considered kidnapping Uday but decided it was too difficult.

Instead they reportedly discovered a member of Uday's own circle called Rafid Hazza, whose uncle had been executed by Saddam Hussein, who was willing to help them in their murder plot.

Hazza tipped them off of Uday's plans to attend a party in a fashionable area of Baghdad on December 12.

Four members of Al Naddah waited at a crossroads on

Uday's route and threw a grenade at his car when it arrived there.

One of the gunmen then ran towards the car firing at the driver, believing him to be Uday.

It was only when a second gunman approached that they realised that Uday was still alive and shot at him. Saddam's 33-year-old son was hit by 14 bullets but survived the attack. When he left hospital on June 9 Iraqi officials said he made a "full recovery" although he appeared on crutches.

Iraqi authorities have announced no arrests in the assassination bid, while Uday has pointed a finger at Iran, which fought an eight-year war against Iraq during the 1980s. Othman told the Independent that his group escaped from Iraq by fleeing into the country's western desert, where they were joined by Hazza, then to Jordan.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel. 773111-19	
PROGRAMME TWO	
15:35	French Programmes
16:05	Captain Planet
16:30	Spell Binder
17:30	Border Town
18:10	French Programmes
19:00	News in French
19:30	News Headlines
19:35	Doc. — Grace Under Fire
20:00	Soldier's Diary
20:30	Challenges
21:10	Spencer For Hire
22:00	News in English
22:30	Land's End
23:15	American Gothic
PRAYER TIMES	
03:58	Fajr
05:32	Sunrise/Duha
12:41	Dhuhr
16:21	Asr
19:49	Maghreb
21:23	Isha
CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifib. Tel. 810740	
Assemblies of God Church Tel. 632785	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 634590	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Terza Sancta Church Tel. 622366	
Anglican Church Tel. 652826	

# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

**Armenian Catholic Church** Tel. 771331.  
**Armenian Orthodox Church** Tel. 775261.  
**St. Ephraim Church** Tel. 771751.

**Amman International Church** Tel. 5516245  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church** Tel. 824328.

**German-speaking Evangelical Congregation** Tel. 843457  
**The Latter-Day Saints** Tel. 654932.

**Church of Nazareth** Tel. 675691.

**The Evangelical Local Church in Amman** Tel. 811295

**English-speaking Latin Catholics Parish** Tel. 614190.

**WEATHER**  
*Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology*  
Temperatures are expected to drop becoming around average and winds northwesterly moderate to active. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate to active and seas calm.

**Amman** ..... 20/31  
**Aqaba** ..... 26/39  
**Deserts** ..... 18/26  
**Jordan Valley** ..... 24/38

Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 35, Aqaba 41 Humidity readings: Amman 28 per cent, Aqaba 27 per cent.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### NIGHT DUTY

Dr. Jamal Jharab ..... 847351  
Dr. Ayman Al Muhtaseb ..... 873748  
Dr. Abbas Al Hakim ..... 885446  
Dr. Arafat Al Ashhab ..... 661912  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy ..... 890280  
Al Asama pharmacy ..... 837085  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637660  
Naimukh pharmacy ..... 825672  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632

### IRBID:

Dr. Mazen Abu Baker ..... 276852  
Al Quds pharmacy ..... 611111  
**ZARQA:**  
Dr. Ya'qub Al Khatib ..... 991772  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 95417

## EMERGENCIES

**Food Control Centre** 637111  
**Civil Defence Department** 661111  
**Civil Defence Immediate** 650341  
**Civil Defence Emergency** 199

**Rescue Police** 192, 621111, 637777  
**Fire Brigade** ..... 617101  
**Bloud Bank** ..... 775121  
**Highway Police** ..... 843402  
**Traffic Police** ..... 896390  
**Public Security Department** 630321  
**Hotel Complaints** ..... 605800  
**Price Complaints** ..... 661176  
**Water and Sewerage Complaints** ..... 897467  
**Amman Municipality Complaints** ..... 787111  
**Telephone Information (directory assistance)** ..... 121  
**Overseas Calls** ..... 010230  
**Central Amman Telephone Repairs** ..... 623101  
**Abdali Telephone Repairs** 661101  
**Jordan Television** ..... 773111  
**Radio Jordan** ..... 774111  
**Water Authority** ..... 680100  
**Jordan Electricity Authority** 815615  
**Electric Power Company** 636381

### IRBID:

**RJ Flight Information** 08-53200  
**Queen Alia Intl. Airport** 08-53200

## HOSPITALS

**AMMAN:**  
Hussein Medical Centre

813813/32  
**Khalidi Maternity**, 644281/6  
**Akileh Maternity**, 642441/2  
**Jabal Amman Maternity** 642362  
**Malhas, J. Amman** ..... 636140  
**Palatine, Shmeisani** 607071  
**Shmeisani Hospital** 669131  
**University Hospital** 845845  
**Al-Muasher Hospital** 6672279  
**The Islamic, Abdali** 666126/37  
**Al-Ahli, Abdali** ..... 664164/6  
**Italian, Al-Muhajreen** 777101/3  
**Al-Bashir** ..... 775111/26  
**Army, Marka** ..... 891611/15  
**Queen Alla Hospital** 602240/50  
**Amal Hospital** ..... 674155  
**The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery** ..... 865199  
**ZARQA:**  
**Zarqa Govt. Hospital** 09/983323  
**Zarqa National Hospital** 09/900560  
**Ibn Sina Hospital** 09/96732  
**Al Hikma Modern Hospital** 09/990990

### IRBID:

**Princess Basma Hospital** 02/275555  
**Greek Catholic Hospital** 02/272275  
**Ibn Al Nafees Hospital** 02/247100

**AQABA:**  
**Princess Haya Hospital** (03)314111

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200 where it should always be verified.  
Information on other flights are supplied on phone 08 (52700) or (08)53250.

## ARRIVALS

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

08:05 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
09:25 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
09:30 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
10:15 ..... Laranea (RJ)  
10:45 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
17:30 ..... Madrid (RJ)  
18:05 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
18:05 ..... Paris (RJ)  
18:40 ..... Brussels, Geneva (RJ)  
19:05 ..... Rome (RJ)  
19:10 ..... Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)  
19:10 ..... London, Berlin (RJ)  
19:50 ..... Toronto, Montreal (RJ)  
21:30 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

00:15 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
01:05 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
04:25 ..... Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

## Other Flights

09:15 ..... Karachi, Abu Dhabi (PK)  
11:00 ..... Sanaa, Hudaidah (Y)  
12:00 ..... Jeddah (SV)  
13:00 ..... Al'Arish (PF)  
13:10 ..... Doha, Abu Dhabi (GF)  
13:15 ..... Cairo (MS)  
13:50 ..... Tel Aviv (LY)  
14:30 ..... Tunis (TU)  
15:05 ..... Vienna (OS)  
16:20 ..... Algiers (AH)  
17:00 ..... Doha (QF)  
19:30 ..... Istanbul, Damascus (PK)  
20:40 ..... London (GA)  
21:10 ..... Beirut (ME)  
21:10 ..... Paris, Damascus (AF)  
23:20 ..... Istanbul (TK)  
23:25 ..... Amsterdam (KL)  
23:30 ..... Athens (OA)  
05:15 ..... Ankara (TK)  
07:50 ..... Amsterdam (GA)

## DEPARTURES

07:00 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
10:50 ..... Rome (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Berlin, London (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
12:40 ..... Casablanca (RJ)

12:45 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
20:10 ..... Colombo (RJ)  
20:35 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
21:00 ..... New Delhi (RJ)  
21:10 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
21:10 ..... Riyadh, Dhahran (RJ)  
21:15 ..... Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)  
21:20 ..... Bombay (RJ)  
21:45 ..... Bahrain (RJ)  
22:05 ..... Dubai, Muscat (RJ)  
02:00 ..... Sanaa (RJ)

## Other Flights

06:50 ..... Larnaca (CY)  
08:45 ..... Beirut (ME)  
08:50 ..... Amsterdam (GA)  
09:25 ..... London (BA)  
10:00 ..... Damascus, Istanbul (PK)  
11:20 ..... Cairo (MS)  
12:00 ..... Hudaidah, Sanaa (Y)  
13:30 ..... Jeddah (SV)  
14:00 ..... Al'Arish (PF)  
14:00 ..... Bahrain, Muscat (GF)  
14:15 ..... Cairo (MS)  
15:10 ..... Tel Aviv (LY)  
15:30 ..... Tunis (TU)  
15:50 ..... Vienna (OS)  
17:20 ..... Shanghai (AF)  
17:50 ..... Doha (QF)  
20:15 ..... Abu Dhabi, Karachi (PK)  
21:40 ..... Denpasar (GA)  
23:55 ..... Damascus, Paris (AF)  
00:25 ..... Damascus, Amsterdam (KL)  
00:25 ..... Ankara (TK)  
04:00 ..... Athens (OA)  
06:15 ..... Istanbul (TK)





HRH Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid Tuesday discusses issues related to persons with disabilities with Ministry of Education Secretary General Izzat Jaradat. During a meeting held at the Ministry of Education, the Prince stressed the need for conducting a comprehensive national survey for the handicapped to identify the scale of the problem in order to develop new programmes.

## Prime minister reports on Cairo meeting to members of Cabinet

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Tuesday reported to the Cabinet on a meeting held earlier this week in Cairo by the Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee.

The premier detailed agreements reached by the two sides on promoting bilateral cooperation in health, tourism, labour, culture, energy, power linkage and other issues.

Subsequent to the Cabinet session, Minister of State for Information Affairs Samir Mutawi reported that Dr. Majali gave details of talks with Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Jazouari as well as those of his meeting with President Hosni Mubarak to whom he conveyed a message from His Majesty King Hussein.

Dr. Majali briefed ministers on talks regarding political developments pertaining to the Middle East peace process as well as those obstacles obstructing its full attainment.

During the Cairo meeting, the premier affirmed Jordan's full support for Egyptian endeavours to end the deadlock in Arab-Israeli peace negotiations.

Also according to Dr. Mutawi, Minister of Health and Medical Care Ashraf Kurdi gave a report regarding his visit to the Republic of Ireland, where he concluded an agreement on the training of Jordanian doctors and nurses in Irish hospitals.

He also discussed post-graduate degrees for medical staff in their respective specialities.

Dr. Kurdi detailed primary health care, health insurance systems and inspection methods for combating Creutzfeldt-Jakob ("mad cow") disease as practised in Ireland.

Upon a recommendation from Minister of Planning Rima Khalaf, the Cabinet approved a World Bank loan to Jordan, totalling \$32 million, to finance tourism projects in the ancient Nabatean city of Petra, Wadi Rum, Jerash, and Karak.

The Cabinet also approved a loan agreement under which Jordan is to receive 7.1 billion yen from the Japanese government to finance a project for human resources development, Dr. Mutawi said.

Cabinet members reviewed memoranda submitted by the ministers of finance and interior regarding a five-year plan for the development and modernisation of the Civil Defence System in Jordan. According to Dr. Mutawi, the Cabinet rejected a request for funds for this project.

The general financial situation does not permit any allocation of funds for this project, however, the Cabinet has decided to seek cooperation between the private and public sectors to help ease the burden on the Civil Defence Authority, Dr. Mutawi stated.

He added that efforts will be exerted to secure external help and involve Jordanian businesses and factories in this project.

Jordan will also participate in a tourism conference and exhibit in Tokyo as well as send representatives to an international tourism market in London.

Both events are to take place in November. Dr. Khalaf was requested to head a Jordanian delegation to hold talks next month with the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank and the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development to discuss loans to finance the government-sponsored social security package.

The Cabinet approved a request by the Jordan Central Bank to sell 750,000 of its shares in the Housing Bank whose nominal value is JD 750,000, Dr. Mutawi stated.

In reply to a question about recent posters affixed by Jewish settlers, defaming the Prophet Mohammad as well as a subsequent reported destruction of the Koran, Dr. Mutawi declared the Jordanian government's condemnation of such acts.

These practices reflect extremism and encroach on religious sentiment, he added.

The government will express its reaction through diplomatic channels, Dr. Mutawi said.

The Foreign Ministry will hold meetings with Israel to facilitate the process of issuing visas to Jordanian citizens and remove obstacles in the way of travellers who enter that country, he concluded.

## Controversy resurfaces over Christian party

By Francesca Ciriaci  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — After having been overlooked and nearly forgotten by the press and political circles for around seven months, the controversy over the establishment of a Christian party has resurfaced.

Ironically, the dispute is being fuelled by some Christian professionals and church leaders who are fiercely opposing the actualisation of the projected Christian Arab Democratic Party (CADP). They are reportedly addressing a press conference today to be chaired by the Roman Catholic Bishop Saleem Sayegh.

While over the past few days in the Arabic press his opponents have accused him of creating unnecessary divisions in a society which has long been a model of integration and Muslim-Christian fruitful co-existence, the architect of the potential party, Sami Siwady, laments "being persecuted."

"They do not want a Christian party in this country, and I cannot understand why, as we already have an Islamic party," Mr. Siwady said, referring to the Islamic Action Front (IAF). Jordan's strongest opposition party, registered in 1992, shortly after the resumption of the multi-party system in the Kingdom.

Responding to accusations of "fanaticism," Mr. Siwady reiterated to the Jordan Times on Tuesday that "more than half of CADP's supporters are Muslims," and that "around 55 of the over 100 signatures heretofore collected for the official registration of the party at the Ministry of Interior are [those of] Muslims."

In a report published Tuesday, the Arabic daily Al Dustour reported that the CADP may not conform to regulations stipulated under the 1992 Political Parties Law, as its leaders intend to open a branch in the West Bank and obtain official registration from the Palestinian National Authority (PNA).

"I know that a political party cannot be registered in two countries at the same time, and therefore we are planning to found another party in the West Bank," Mr. Siwady responded.

Notwithstanding the high calibre and activism of his opponents, Mr. Siwady said that he and Tayseer Boshe, the temporary secretary general of the projected party, and a Muslim, will submit the application for official registration at the Ministry of Interior this week.

However, "the signatories need certificates testifying that they are not involved in any pending trial, and this is slowing the process," he affirmed.

The CADP will elect its leadership after becoming licensed, Mr. Siwady pointed out.

If registration procedures are completed on time, "we, as a party, will run in the next parliamentary elections (scheduled to take place this autumn), and will field both Muslim and Christian candidates," Mr. Siwady announced, leaving open the possibility that he, himself, might run.

Regardless of Mr. Siwady's determination, some leading Christians asked by the Jordan Times to express their opinion on the projected

Christian party did not conceal their disapproval.

In an earlier interview with the Jordan Times, historian and Director of the Centre for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan Mustafa Hamameh described the CADP project as "counter-productive."

"I am against religious parties tout-court," echoed veteran leftist leader Issa Madanat.

"I am very strongly against it (the establishment of the CADP), as I believe that political parties, as pillars of democracy, should be opened to everybody and not have religious connotations," declared Anis Muasher, former minister of finance, prominent businessman, and deputy secretary general for financial and economic affairs in the National Constitutional Party (NCP).

In response to Mr. Siwady's assertion that the existence of the IAF in Jordan created a precedent and legitimised the establishment of a corresponding Christian political body, Mr. Muasher told the Jordan Times that "(the IAF) started as a society, in a different historical and cultural context."

"We have had the example of Lebanon," where the consolidation of religious factions in political groups and militias degenerated in a bloody civil war that shattered the country for 15 years," Mr. Muasher stated.

The Christian elite, however, does not seem too worried by the projected party.

"The whole issue has been blown out of proportion by the media," Mr. Muasher concluded. "I doubt anybody is going to join this party."

## Alleged rape victim faces charges of perjury

By Rana Hussein  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — New developments surfaced Tuesday in the case of three men facing charges of rape and statutory rape at the Criminal Court, when the alleged victim changed her previous court testimony.

She is now facing charges of perjury. The three men, including a prominent Jordanian singer, are charged with having had sexual relations with a 17-year-old student on April 9 and 10.

Two of the three men, identified as T. N. and U. J., the singer, are charged with statutory rape, while the third defendant, J. A., is accused of rape.

However, during a two-hour closed session Tuesday, the alleged victim changed her earlier sworn testimony given to police and the criminal prosecutor in April.

She testified that T. N. did not ever have sexual relations with her, prompting the court to order her immediate detention for questioning.

"Due to the obvious contradictions in the witness testimony, I order that she be detained at a female juvenile centre and transferred to the Amman prosecutor for questioning," Presiding Judge Abdul Ruhman Tawfiq said.

According to the charge sheet, the minor, who had been staying in the Marj Al Hamam area of Amman, fought with her father on April 9 and left the house.

She then reportedly wandered in the streets and signalled for cars to pull over and take her to a friend's house.

However, instead the driver who, according to the charge sheet, is the first defendant J. A., took her to a farm and convinced her to spend the night.

The suspect offered the minor alcohol and then raped her, the charge sheet said.

It added that the following day, the victim met with the other two suspects at a nightclub, left for T. N.'s house where, according to her first testimony to investigators, she engaged in sexual relations with both men.

The minor, who burst into tears upon hearing the court's decision to detain her, had earlier dropped charges against the three men, but according to the Jordanian Penal Code, they must still undergo a public trial.

The court tribunal which also included Justices Mifleh Mubeidin and Ibrahim Ali, postponed the case until Sept. 6 to hear additional prosecution witnesses.

## Three receive death sentence

By Rana Hussein  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Criminal Court Tuesday sentenced a man and his two sons to death after they were declared guilty of killing a 28-year-old man in Tafleeh in April of last year.

The court tribunal declared Omar Saleh, 48, and his two sons, Na'eem, 21, and Nasha't, 19, guilty of the premeditated murder of Ibrahim Khleifat on April 27 in Prince Rashed Hospital in Tafleeh.

According to court documents, one of Omar's sons, Naseem, was found dead in a deserted area in Tafleeh several months prior to the incident, and the defendants suspected that Mr. Khleifat had killed him.

The defendants then filed a complaint to police charging that Mr. Khleifat killed their son, "however a forensic report indicated that Naseem had died of natural causes."

"Naseem's father and brothers did not agree with the autopsy results, continuing to insist instead that Mr. Khleifat killed their son, and asked their cousins Khalid Mohamamad, 26, and his brother Imad 19, to aid in his murder," the court said.

On the morning of the incident, all five men, carrying unlicensed guns and switchblades, met in a Tafleeh market and headed to Prince Rashed Hospital, "in which place they knew the victim was being treated."

As Mr. Khleifat was leaving the hospital, court transcripts said, Omar, Na'eem, and Nasha't approached him and commenced shooting and stabbing him.

Imad and Khalid, acting as a cover, brandished guns and threatened passers-by who approached," court transcripts said.

According to the court, the two men yelled "we killed him because he deserved to die!"

The five men then hailed a cab and turned themselves in to police "claiming they killed Mr. Khleifat to avenge their son's death."

The court sentenced Khalid and Imad to a 15-year imprisonment term with temporary hard labour for complicity in Mr. Khleifat's murder.

All five verdicts, handed down by Justices Ahmad Momani, Marwan Dabbas and Abdul Hamid Sa'ad, will be automatically reviewed by the Court of Cassation within 30 days.

### Woman found strangled in home

Meanwhile, police are searching for an assailant in connection with the murder of a 55-year-old woman near the Ministry of Justice in the Shmeisani area of Amman, an official source said.

The victim, Fakhrieh Kurdi, was found strangled in her house at around 3:00 p.m. Her daughters, who had returned home from work, found the body, the source said.

Theft is believed to be the motive behind the murder.

"The woman's jewellery was missing," the source said.

He added that the perpetrator locked the door and fled.

Police contacted by the Jordan Times Tuesday evening said they were investigating the incident.

## QAFHS emphasises early intervention for children who are hearing-impaired

By Tanya Habbouqa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Neglecting hearing loss in children is detrimental to their educational, emotional, and social well-being, Queen Alia Foundation for Hearing and Speech (QAFHS) doctor, Mohammed Nabulsi, affirmed Tuesday.

According to Dr. Nabulsi, early detection enables a child to be fitted for a hearing aid from a young age and begin auditory speech therapy.

"Unfortunately there is still some prejudice against the hearing impaired in certain schools," Dr. Nabulsi said. "They do not get a fair chance, although the past 15 years have shown improvement."

One fourth grader who exhibited profound hearing loss began therapy a few years ago and earned a score of 93% in his class this year, Dr. Nabulsi said.

QAFHS has recently moved into the second phase of the early detection campaign, focusing on hearing loss and speech therapy for children in the north of Jordan.

"We are launching a national campaign for the early detection of hearing loss in children between the ages of one and six," QAFHS Director Ibrahim Abu Khadra stated.

Working in conjunction with the Ministry of Social Development, children in Al Amal school in Irbid are currently being tested for hearing loss and fitted for free hearing aids.

"We are now focusing on centres and schools which accommodate comprehensive teaching for deaf children, Dr. Nabulsi explained. "This is the only way the children can really develop their skills and progress."

Dr. Nabulsi was referring to the already completed first phase of the detection campaign in southern Jordan.

QAFHS began testing children in the southern districts of Karak, Ma'an, Aqaba, and Tafleeh in 1987, offering free hearing aids to the needy, Mr. Abu Khadra said.

However, success was limited due to the lack of comprehensive training for the deaf, according to Dr. Nabulsi.

"There was no training available for auditory speech therapy," he said. "The children's development was [stunted] because there was no comprehensive rehabilitation offered."

Future developments in the south will include centres dealing with hearing and speech therapy, he added.

QAFHS recently completed an intensive training session of 10 special education teachers from various Ministry of Social Development centres throughout the Kingdom.

"We will continue training teachers so that we may develop comprehensive centres to aid deaf children," Dr. Nabulsi explained.

According to him, five per cent of the population suffer from hearing impediments.

When the Jordan Times inquired as to the cause of such a high rate of deafness, Dr. Nabulsi attributed it to intermarriages within a given family.

He explained that the risk of passing hearing impediments onto one's children doubles when the parents are both carriers of the defective gene.

"Nonetheless, aiding those children now through early detection will improve the life of the child and parents," he asserted. "Developing these children's skills will allow them to become productive members of society."

The second phase will include training and testing for all needy children from northern districts such as Ajloun, Balqa, and Ma'arra. Mr. Abu-Khadra concluded.

The QAFHS, established in 1978 by the late Queen Alia, was the first centre for the deaf in the Kingdom.

Canada and Italy have funded medical equipment, hearing aids, and have also offered scholarships for audio and speech training, according to QAFHS officials.

## Composer blends Arabic essence with classic compositions

By Jean-Claude Elias  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Composer and pianist Agnes Bashir-Dzoditssova is well-known in Jordan's music circles for her versatility and dynamism.

One of the most sought-after piano teachers in Amman, she is also an acclaimed concert performer and perhaps before all, a truly original composer.

Having chosen to live in the Kingdom a few years ago, Ms. Bashir, originally

from the republic of Georgia, is married to Iraqi violinist, Fikri Bashir.

She has assimilated the Arab culture and language and has succeeded in integrating their essence and spirit in her compositions. Her best known work so far is the score she wrote for poems by the late Jabra Ibrahim Jabra. Her "Arabic Suite" however is no less original and musically interesting.

She has also given numerous solo and orchestral recitals in Jordan.

Earlier this year in May, Agnes Bashir was invited to France where she performed at the Theatre Moliere in Paris, along with Palestinian soprano Tania Tamari-Nasir, also well known to Amman music lovers.

The response of the French public was overwhelming. The celebrated Arab-French composer Patrick Lama also attended the event.

The concert triggered a series of invitations to the United States and Europe where Ms. Bashir was presented as a musician from Jordan and also as a woman.

The conference of the International Alliance of Women in Music (IAWM) in Los Angeles which Agnes Bashir attended last June was a huge success.

The magazine "Composers USA" subsequently published a story about Agnes Bashir in which she put the accent on the progress of music in Jordan and the achievements of the National Music Conservatory — Noor Al Hussein Foundation.

The IAWM promotes the music of women composers and performers.

Ms. Bashir has been invited to participate in a similar conference to take place in Italy in September 1997 in the city of Fuggi. The "Donne in Musica," the Italian equivalent of the Los Angeles conference, is organised by the Patricia Adkins Chini Foundation.

There is also question of Agnes Bashir performing in the 1998 edition of the conference.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### LECTURE

"A Journey Through Millions of Years" by Ms. Catherine Hamarneh at the Friends of Archaeology Centre at 8:30 p.m. (Tel: 696682).

### EXHIBITIONS

Photography exhibition by Jan Kossay, at the French Cultural Centre, Jabal Weibdeh, until July 29.

Paintings by Ali Al Ghoul at Greater Amman Municipality Cultural Department, Ras Al Ain, until July 31.

"Silver Jewelry exhibition" at the Jordan Design and Trade Centre of Noor Al Hussein Foundation, until July 20.

Karim Rasim's works at the Orient Gallery, until July 10.

Paintings by contemporary Iraqi artists entitled "Ecology and Environment in Iraqi Art" at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, until July 12 (except Tuesdays).

"Contemporary Arab Artists Exhibition" showing works of 60 Arab artists at Darat Al Funun, Jabal Weibdeh until July 24.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Police apprehend suspected thieves

AMMAN (Petra) — Aqaba police forces Monday apprehended two men who allegedly stabbed two Egyptian workers and stole JD 90 from one of them in two separate incidents, Aqaba police sources said Tuesday. Both men have been referred to court, they added.

### Local companies awarded tenders

AMMAN (Petra) — Director of the Palestinian Affairs Department Ibrahim Tarshuhi Tuesday endorsed a decision offering two tenders worth JD 43,900 to local contracting companies to implement two projects in Talbieh and Irbid camps. The contracts include the construction of a two-storey headquarters for the Talbieh Camp Services Improvement Committee as well as the connection of 150 houses in Irbid camp to a sewage network.



# Rift between Serbs could produce rival governments

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Bosnian Serb hardliners have brushed aside international criticism and renewed calls for President Biljana Plavsic to resign in a power struggle that threatened to produce rival governments in Serb territory.

Opponents of Mrs. Plavsic allied with indicted war criminal and ex-President Radovan Karadzic scoffed at international warnings that they were flouting the law by refusing to accept a presidential decision to dissolve parliament.

"It is ironic that our constitution is interpreted by busy bodies from the international community," Momcilo Krajisnik, the Serb member of the Bosnian presidency and a main ally of Mr. Karadzic, said late Monday.

"They have no right to do so, but they want to create even greater chaos here. No one has the right to get involved in our internal affairs," Mr. Krajisnik said in remarks broadcast on Bosnian Serb television.

The United States and European governments say Mrs. Plavsic acted in line with the constitution when she dissolved the Bosnian Serb Assembly last week and called new elections for Sept. 1.

With Mrs. Plavsic possessing the legal right to form a new government in a matter of days, diplomats were concerned two rival authorities could emerge splitting Serb territory into western and eastern halves.

The United Nations mission in Bosnia said some police units had sided with Mrs. Plavsic and were guarding her offices in the northwest town of Banja Luka.

A U.N. spokesman said International Police monitors were refusing to deal with the interior minister, a Karadzic loyalist whom Mrs. Plavsic tried to suspend a week ago.

Mrs. Plavsic has capitalised on resentment against the insulated party leadership ruling from the mountain village of Pale, outside Sarajevo.

Morale was running high among her supporters in Banja Luka, where large rallies were held over the weekend backing the president against the Pale leadership.

Western envoys called on Karadzic loyalists Monday to end censorship of the official television network and grant Mrs. Plavsic free access to the airwaves.

Although Mrs. Plavsic is a nationalist ideologue, Western governments have lent her support because they say she has shown a willingness to cooperate with the Dayton Peace Accords to obtain reconstruction aid for Serb territory.

Mrs. Plavsic, a former Karadzic protégé, has broken with the ruling party leadership in peacetime, levelling charges of rampant corruption.

She has accused Mr. Karadzic and his circle of plundering Bosnia's Serb entity while ordinary Serbs struggle to survive in grinding poverty.

Trying to counter the charges, Mr. Krajisnik said on television that corruption in Serb territory was no worse than in other Balkan countries. He accused Mrs. Plavsic of acting like a monarch and demanded she resign.

The political turmoil has drawn attention again to the failure of major powers to arrest Mr. Karadzic and indicted war

criminals who continue to obstruct the peace process.

Mr. Karadzic was forced to step down as president a year ago under heavy international pressure but he has continued to wield influence and has scoffed at charges of genocide handed down by the U.N. War Crimes Tribunal.

Fuelling speculation that Western policy might be shifting on the war crimes issue, U.S. Defence Secretary William Cohen and a senior NATO official refused to rule out using allied troops to capture indicted war criminals, including Mr. Karadzic.

"Nothing has been ruled in or ruled out," Mr. Cohen told reporters as he travelled to the NATO summit in Madrid. "There has been no decision made. It has been the position of the (U.S.) administration that we will do whatever we can to strengthen the War Crimes Tribunal."

Mr. Krajisnik, however, suggested Mr. Karadzic planned to eventually return to the public arena. He said the wartime Serb leader had promised "not to interfere in politics until the post-Dayton period."

Meanwhile, Bosnian Serb army commander, General Pero Colic Tuesday warned the international community to stay out of Bosnia's political affairs, in an interview published by the pro-government Serbian daily *Vecernje Novosti*.

His criticism came after the United States rallied Monday to Mrs. Plavsic who is locked in a bitter political battle with erstwhile hardline allies.

"Any outside interference is unacceptable. The problem we are faced with will be solved by the Republika Srpska's own institutions... International interpretations of our texts do not interest us," Gen. Colic warned.

Gen. Colic, an ally of top Bosnian Serb hardliner Momcilo Krajisnik, said there was "total unity" within army ranks and that the military would recognise "only the Republika Srpska's legal institutions."

On Monday U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, in Madrid for a NATO summit, said the alliance, which leads the 31,000-strong peacekeeping force in Bosnia, should back Mrs. Plavsic.

The United States would be asking its NATO partners meeting here from Tuesday to take "coordinated action" to isolate Bosnian Serb leaders opposed to the full implementation of Bosnia's 1995 peace treaty, she added.

On Monday Mr. Krajisnik warned the international community that any interference in his country's political crisis would "signify the end of the application of the Dayton Peace Accords."

Mr. Krajisnik is a close ally of former Bosnian Serb chief Radovan Karadzic, whose supporters are in open conflict with Mrs. Plavsic for control of the Serb-run half of post-war Bosnia.

Washington has said it will not acknowledge decisions taken by the Serb parliament which Mrs. Plavsic dissolved Thursday. The parliament met Friday and Saturday in defiance of her decree and passed a law enabling it to strip her of her powers.

## 4 reported dead in Poland floods

WARSAW (R) — Four people have been killed in floods in southern Poland, Polish TV reported Monday, after days of heavy rain swelled some major rivers to danger levels.

The Polish cabinet held a crisis meeting to discuss the floods and Prime Minister Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz was leading an official delegation to observe developments in the worst affected provinces of Katowice, Walbrzych and Opole, government spokeswoman Aleksandra Jakubowska told a news conference.

The PAP news agency said some 400 people were evacuated in Opole province and over 120 houses were flooded in Katowice province.

Other reports from the affected areas told of many homes under threat, children evacuated from holiday camps, and underground gas, electricity and telecommunications facilities swamped in the Upper Silesia industrial area.

Army cadets, soldiers and police were being called in to reinforce fire brigades

dealing with the emergencies.

Mrs. Jakubowska said Czech officials, themselves battling floods, were emptying reservoirs into the Odra River which flows north into southwestern Poland.

"On July 6 the Czech side began emptying retention reservoirs into the Odra, which has worsened the situation," she said.

Police in the Czech Republic said a Vienna-Warsaw express train careered off a bridge and some of its cars plunged into floodwaters in the northeast Monday, injuring at least 64 passengers.

The bridge had apparently been weakened by floods.

The incident occurred on the Odra River south of Ostrava, the third biggest Czech city.

The Czech news agency CTK said torrential rain since the weekend was believed to have caused six deaths — two women and four men — but it stressed no casualty report had been independently confirmed.

About one-third of Ostrava was inundated, Czech

radio said.

A state of emergency was declared as road, railway, electricity, and telephone services were disrupted in many parts of the northeast and sources of drinking water tainted.

Officials issued appeals for potable water and emergency supplies as rivers kept rising.

Czechs marooned by flood waters had to scramble onto their rooftops in numerous towns and villages lining tributaries to the Opava and Morava rivers.

Forecasts throughout much of the region were for heavy rain through at least Tuesday, threatening low-lying regions including Ostrava and the city of Zlin further downstream.

Mrs. Jakubowska gave no details of financial losses caused by the rain, but said special budget reserves totalling 300 million zlotys (\$90 million) might not suffice to pay out possible compensation claims, and that some of the burden would have to be carried by insurers.

## 64 injured as Czech train plunges off bridge

PRAGUE (R) — An express train careered off a bridge and plunged into floodwaters in the Czech Republic Monday, injuring at least 64 passengers.

Some carriages from the Vienna-Warsaw Express ended up nearly half a mile away, police said.

The incident happened in the northeast of the country near the town of Ostrava shortly before 1 p.m. (1100 GMT).

"As far as we know there was no loss of life," a police spokesman said, adding that several carriages were still under water. The bridge had apparently been weakened by floods.

No further details of the crash were immediately available.

Elsewhere in the area torrential rain since the weekend was believed to have caused seven deaths, the Czech CTK news agency said.

About one-third of Ostrava, the country's third largest city, was inundated, Czech radio said.

Rail and road service to parts of the region have been suspended, and officials issued appeals for drinking water and emergency supplies as rivers continued to rise.

Two women and five men were believed to have died in the flooding, which swept away houses and cut off dozens of people, CTK said.

Marooned residents had to scramble onto their rooftops as numerous towns and villages lining tributaries to the Opava and Morava rivers have been swamped.

A state of emergency has been declared and helicopters, soldiers, police and fire units sent from around the country.

Forecasts throughout much of the region were for heavy rain through at least Tuesday, threatening low-lying regions including Ostrava and the city of Zlin further downstream.



An image taken by the Imager for Mars Pathfinder (IMP) after its deployment on Sol 3 shows the two hills in the distance, approximately one or two kilometres away, which have been dubbed the 'Twin Peaks.' The white areas on the left hill, called the 'Ski Run' by scientists, may have been formed by hydraulic processes (Reuters photo)

## Scientists find evidence of massive Mars flooding

PASADENA (R) — Scientists Monday said the area around the Mars Pathfinder landing site was hit by a catastrophic flood billions of years ago.

Using pictures from the Pathfinder lander, scientists said floods around the Ares Vallis Basin were about the same size as those that created the Mediterranean Sea.

Michael Malin, one of the scientists, speculated the flooding was hundreds of kilometres wide and sent water surging at a rate of about 35 million cubic feet (one million cubic metres) per second.

"A comparable flood on Earth would be the one that filled the Mediterranean Basin," he told reporters.

Evidence of the flood could be seen by the fact that large boulders were stacked up against each other as if they had been pushed by the flood waters, Mr. Malin said.

He said he believed that crusts on the rocks were formed by salt and sediment from the flood waters as they receded and left puddles on the rocks. A similar crusting pattern could be seen on rocks in Hawaii thrown out by volcanic

activity, he added.

Mission scientist Matthew Golombek said the findings so far posed the question, "could early Mars have been much warmer and wetter?"

"The implications are enormous because liquid water is the key ingredient for life," he added.

One of the aims of the Mars Expeditionary Programme, which will send four more landers to various sites on the planet over the next eight years, is to discover if life, even in its most primitive form, ever existed on the red planet.

Scientists also want to know where the water went and what happened to what they believe was an atmosphere that was once as dense as Earth's but is now much thinner.

Signs of the flooding were clearly visible in what the Pathfinder scientists refer to as "The Monster Pan" — a vast panoramic view of the dusty red Martian surface and the salmon coloured sky so large that it is best viewed as a video.

"The Pan" is a composite made up of hundreds of images sent back by the Pathfinder spacecraft fol-

lowing its picture perfect landing on Mars last Friday. Other photos unveiled Monday showed the Sojourner rover backed up against a rock almost as big as itself, affectionately named "Barnacle Bill" by the crew at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

Displaying the picture, Mr. Golombek told reporters: "This shows how the rover nestled up and affectionately kissed Barnacle Bill."

Sojourner, a six-wheeled vehicle about the size of a microwave oven, backed up to the rock late Sunday and scanned it with its alpha proton X-Ray spectrometer for 10 hours, sending a wealth of data back to Earth.

Scientists said Monday they hoped to be able to give at least a preliminary analysis of the rock's composition Tuesday. They hope to learn eventually how the planet was formed, what changes occurred over the years and whether life ever existed on Mars.

Mr. Golombek said "Barnacle Bill" was of particular interest because it is not dusted by the red Martian soil that covers other rocks.

The same is true of "Yogi," a much bigger rock that resembles a bear, which the rover will take a look at later Monday.

In addition, cameras on board Sojourner and the Pathfinder lander craft continued to send a stream of pictures back to Earth, including closeups of rocks and the sandy soil that covers much of the Martian surface.

Scientists have taken the opportunity for light relief in naming the rocks that show up in the pictures. One is named "Flat Top," another is "Casper" after "Casper The Ghost" because it has a whitish hue and one has been dubbed "The Couch" because it looks like one.

"Perfectly" was Mr. Golombek's favourite word Monday as he briefed reporters. "We had a very productive day (Sunday). The spacecraft is operating perfectly and the instruments are working perfectly," he said.

Even the computers on board the lander and the rover were speaking to each other "perfectly" following a communications glitch between the two that was overcome Saturday, he said.

## Mexico's PRI loses big, but not everything

MEXICO CITY (AFP) — The Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) was hit with reverses on every front in a Monday press conference.

"We now have a majority party, the PRI, and well behind, there are second and third parties of nearly the same size," he said.

The PRI's goal had been to hit 42.1 per cent of the congressional vote, which under the complicated Mexican system would have been enough to give it an absolute majority.

But with 36.84 per cent of the deputy vote counted, the PRI had 38.65 per cent; the center-right National Action Party (PAN) 26.99 per cent; and the centre-left Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) 25.59 per cent.

PRD President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador Monday called his party's electoral results a "step forward for democracy in Mexico."

"We believe that anything that adds to Mexico's strength as a democracy is good for our common future," said U.S. President Bill Clinton in Madrid. "It doesn't matter how it (the vote) came out."

"The election contributes

never before seen in Mexico," said PRI President Humberto Roque Villanueva in a Monday press conference.

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"The election contributes

to stability," Mr. Clinton's deputy national security advisor Jim Steinberg said. "There cannot be stability without an opportunity for the people to express their views, to feel that the government is elected."

To some extent, the PRI's lost ground is due not only to economic problems and anger over corruption but also a 1996 electoral reform that President Ernesto Zedillo and others in the party backed.

Mr. Zedillo said Monday the PRI's results "are very good," emphasising that because the PRI "gave up advantages it used to have," the party has shown that in a fair electoral contest it can retain power.

"It seems to me that what's happened is that the PRI gave up with a whimper. Zedillo wanted a debate in the party and it seems to me that that's what he's going to get," said John Bailey, a Mexico expert at Georgetown University in Washington.

The actual number of deputies each party will have is uncertain.

But it is clear the PAN and Mr. Cardenas' centre-left PRD could make life diffi-

cult for Mr. Zedillo.

Both parties have said they want U.S.-style congressional corruption probes, and with the PRI holding the reins of power for decades they are a likely target.

The Chamber of Deputies must approve Mr. Zedillo's budget, and both the lower chamber and the Senate must approve taxation and debt. While the PRI suffered reverses in the Senate, too few seats were open to make it possible for the party to lose its majority there.

A big question now is how the PRI will react to the stinging defeat.

Analyst Victor Alvarez predicted an internal debate that would bring to the fore a new generation of PRI leaders that were "maybe not younger but would have a more modern viewpoint."

And Mr. Bailey predicted that Mexican politics would at last begin to see some charisma.

"I'd expect to see some personalities emerge. Discipline and conformity got rewarded in the past," he said. "You'll see people trying to define themselves. It's a whole new political culture."

## EU set for talks with 5 E. Europeans

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Commission plans to recommend next week opening membership talks with five Eastern European countries along with Cyprus, European Union (EU) officials said Monday.

"The assessment that the (EU Commission) services have made to date would suggest that they would recommend on the basis of objective criteria to start negotiations with six," one official, who has seen draft documents circulated to the 20 European commissioners, told Reuters.

Another official told Reuters that Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic — widely seen as the front-runners — would be put in the first wave of enlargement talks when the EU executive gives its views on July 16 on which of the 10 eastern countries that have applied are ready for membership.

The draft being considered by the commissioners also points to Estonia and Slovenia as being ready, he said.

The case of Cyprus, which

has already been deemed suitable for EU membership and has been waiting in line for some time, is being pushed heavily by Greece.

The news will come as a blow to Slovakia, Latvia, Lithuania, Bulgaria and Romania which have lobbied hard for talks on joining the wealthy Western club to take place with all the applicants at the same time.

Many had warned of the impact on their populations of a double rejection, as the NATO military alliance is only expected to invite Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary to a first expansion wave when its leaders meet in Madrid Tuesday.

A spokeswoman for the EU's External Relations Commissioner Hans van Den Broek — who refused all comment on the commission plan until it is formally announced on July 16 — said there had never been any question of the EU acting as a consolation prize for NATO rejects.

"There will be no consolation prize. We don't want

any of that. There's no link between the two," she said.

Estonia and Slovenia will breathe a sigh of relief because they had feared that the failure of EU leaders to agree at their June 16-17 summit in Amsterdam on institutional changes needed to adapt the EU to wider membership would limit the EU's next enlargement wave to five countries.

This would have meant one or the other being left out.

European Commission President Jacques Santer and Dutch Prime Minister Wim Kok promised leaders from the applicant countries last week that the EU's internal power struggle would not affect the enlargement.

Under the decision reached at Amsterdam, if more than five new countries are taken in the EU must hold a new intergovernmental conference to overhaul its decision-making procedures, and that could prove tricky to achieve as some of the EU's smaller countries will be unwilling to cede power.





North Koreans bow their heads in Pyongyang Tuesday during a national memorial service on the third anniversary of the death of late President Kim Il-Sung. North Korea declared that the official three-year mourning period was over, signalling the start of a new stage in the country's political development. The photograph was taken in Tokyo off a television broadcast from Pyongyang by North Korea's official television KRT (Reuter photo)

## N. Korea ends mourning for Kim Il-Sung

TOKYO (AFP) — North Korea Tuesday declared an end to a three-year period of mourning for President Kim Il-Sung, paving the way for his eldest son to take absolute power in a nation stricken with hunger and bristling with military might.

"Great leader comrade Kim Jong-Il" attended a national meeting in Pyongyang for the third anniversary of his father's death, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) and official radio broadcasts monitored here reported.

But the reclusive leader was identified only by his present titles, chairman of the National Defence Commission and supreme commander of the People's Armed Forces, indicating he has yet to officially succeed his father.

North Korean officials have hinted the younger Kim, 55, would assume the top state posts vacated by his father — state president

and general secretary of the all-powerful Workers Party — after the mourning period ended.

Memorial addresses at the meeting vowed to defend the younger Kim, the military commander-in-chief since late 1991, as the only rightful successor.

The rally took place at the Kumsusan Memorial Palace where the body of the late Kim is preserved. For nearly 50 years Kim, who died aged 82, ruled the northern half of the divided Korean Peninsula with an iron grip.

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-Nam called the memorial meeting a "solemn occasion with which the period of mourning expires."

In an address carried by KCNA, he stressed that the late president solved "the question of inheritance of the leadership with a high sense of responsibility for socialism and the future of the people."

He confirmed that the secretive Stalinist state remained in a state of heightened vigilance while its acute food shortages and other economic woes forced it to appeal for international aid.

"Today imperialists and reactionaries are intensifying their campaign against socialism and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the world arena," Mr. Kim Yong-Nam said.

"With a view to coping with the grave situation of the country, comrade Kim Jong-Il placed the military affairs ahead of all other state affairs."

Speculation has been rife among Pyongyang watchers that the junior Kim might become president on Sept. 9, the anniversary of the founding of North Korea, and party chief on Oct. 10, the Workers Party's birthday.

After two years of severe flooding, North Korea has

agreed to discuss with South Korea, the United States and China ways to establish durable peace on the peninsula — on condition of more food aid.

But, at the same time, North Korea has stepped up warnings to its 23 million people about external pressures to change their rigid system.

At the memorial meeting, Vice-Marshal Jo Myong-Rok, director of the army's political department, said the North Korean military was ready to "answer the 'retaliation' of the enemies with retaliation, an all-out war with an all-out war."

"If the enemies dare pull the trigger of aggression, our People's Army will pull the trigger of retaliatory blow in no time — mercilessly annihilate the U.S. imperialist aggressors, their followers, and the South Korean puppets," he said.

## Policeman shot as Northern Ireland violence flares anew

BELFAST (R) — A Northern Ireland policeman was shot and wounded on Portadown's Garvaghy Road early Tuesday in fresh violence sparked by the routing of a Protestant parade down the same road Sunday.

Witnesses said the policeman was injured when five shots rang out during disturbances involving Catholic demonstrators. His injuries were not thought to be life-threatening.

He was the second member of the security forces to be shot since the latest upsurge of violence in Northern Ireland began last weekend. A policewoman suffered facial injuries when she was shot in a patrol vehicle in Coalisland, northwest of Belfast, Sunday.

The attack in rural Portadown was assumed to be the work of Irish Republican Army (IRA) gunmen fighting British rule in Northern Ireland or a breakaway group exacting revenge for the refusal of the authorities to ban Sunday's Orange Order parade.

The wave of violence which swept across the province Sunday ebbed somewhat after the IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin, appealed for a "calm and dignified protest."

Police said there were several incidents overnight in which Catholic youths hijacked cars and set them ablaze. Some gunshots were fired at security forces in Catholic West Belfast.

Anger was still running high and threatened to blaze again at the weekend when Protestant organisations held two flashpoint marches

in Catholic areas despite vigorous opposition by residents.

A Belfast reporter, Ivan Little, told a local radio station that he had been invited to a clandestine news conference by heavily-armed Loyalist guerrillas who told him they would defend Protestant areas if attacked by Catholics.

Loyalists are officially observing a truce they called in October 1994 but have been blamed by police for a series of attacks against Catholic targets in the past six months.

They have not been involved in any of the violence over the Portadown parade and it was the first time the guerrillas had been linked to current Northern Ireland tension.

Police were investigating the death of a Protestant youth who apparently died in an explosion in south Belfast but refused to confirm or deny speculation that he was handling a bomb. Some reports said he was a well-known Loyalist.

Britain's embattled Northern Ireland secretary, Mo Mowlam, said the circumstances surrounding his death were unclear but added: "One death is one death too many. Northern Ireland has seen too much tragedy. Violence solves nothing. It accomplishes nothing."

If the death was linked to guerrilla violence, it would be the first fatality since the worst violence for years engulfed Northern Ireland after police allowed the Orange Order march through a Catholic enclave of Portadown Sunday.

Mrs. Mowlam was expected to be questioned about a report that she and her advisers decided three weeks ago to rush Sunday's Orange Order parade down the Catholic Garvaghy Road Area of Portadown.

The report in London's Independent newspaper, quoted a confidential government document as saying the decision was the "least worst option" and contradicted Mrs. Mowlam's public version that the move was a last-minute decision after mediation attempts failed.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair refused to bury a faltering Northern Ireland peace process sponsored by the London and Dublin governments.

Sinn Féin, the political wing of the IRA, urged youths to end riots and car hijackings which turned Irish Nationalist ghettos into no-go zones and IRA traps for police and British troops.

Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams appealed for calm and dignified protest but blamed Britain for igniting the anger.

Martin McGuinness, an elected member of the British Parliament and Sinn Féin's chief negotiator, said he was struck on the head by police in scuffles around a Catholic demonstration against a Protestant band parade in Bellaghy.

The march passed off relatively peacefully but Catholic activists said they expected massed opposition Saturday to a parade down the Lower Ormeau road of South Belfast, scene of violent clashes in previous

years. The parade takes place on the "Glorious Twelfth," the 12th of July anniversary of a 1690 battle victory by King James over an invading Catholic king which the Orange Order sees as the most cherished date in its calendar.

Mrs. Mowlam held brief talks Monday night with leaders of the Orange Order, who are determined they will march down the road despite threats of protest by local Catholic community chiefs.

There was no immediate sign the Orange Order might agree to any rerouting of the march. Jeffrey Donaldson, assistant grand master of the order, said the violence was the fault of Irish Nationalists alone and his organisation was not to blame.

"We do try to take on board legitimate concerns. But Orangemen have rights as well, enshrined in international law," he told British television. The order says it wants only to walk peacefully along public roads which belong to no group.

The Apprentice Boys, another Protestant organisation, is also planning a Saturday parade in Northern Ireland's second city of Londonderry, birthplace of militant Irish Nationalism and scene of violent protest over the weekend.

More than 100 people have been injured since Sunday, including two 14-year-old youths, one a Protestant struck by a stray bullet and the other a Catholic hit by a plastic bullet.

## Sri Lankan rebels hijack ship with 38 N. Koreans aboard

COLOMBO (AFP) — Tamil Tiger rebels hijacked a North Korean cargo ship off northern Sri Lanka Tuesday and abducted the 38-member crew as fighting in the country killed 25 people, officials said.

The separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) surrounded the MV Morang Bong off the northern peninsula of Jaffna overnight and commandeered the 3,000-tonne vessel to a nearby rebel stronghold, officials said.

"The ship had a crew of 38 North Koreans," a spokesman for the local agent of the civilian ship said. "We have no information about the fate of the crew but we have asked the owners to get in touch with the Red Cross."

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had secured the release of Indonesian crew members whom the Tigers abducted after torching a passenger ferry off the island's north-western coast on July 1.

Defence officials said they could not recapture the ship because it was anchored near a rebel base and a rescue operation was too dangerous.

"Obviously the Tigers have taken the ship to take

its fuel, power generators and other sophisticated equipment," a military spokesman here said.

Navy sources said the North Korean general cargo carrier was returning empty to the capital Colombo when it was surrounded by Tiger boats and forced to a rebel base in the northeastern district of Mullaitivu.

The agent for the ship said it was operating a cargo service for private traders taking food and other commodities to the small pier of Point Pedro, the northernmost point in the island, in the Jaffna Peninsula.

Security forces are engaged in a major ground offensive aimed at opening a land route to Jaffna which was wrested from rebel control in December 1995. However, land access to the region is held by the Tigers.

"When the ships are attacked like this it will be very difficult for the government to keep Jaffna supplied," said Tamil legislator Dharmalingam Sathanathan. "Tigers are clearly trying to cripple the sea route."

Mr. Sathanathan, who leads the anti-LTTE Democratic People's Liberation Front, said the attacks will scare ferry operators as well as Tamil civilians wanting to travel to Jaffna.

## Scientists work to identify 'Che' Guevara's bones

SANTA CRUZ (R) — A team of Latin American scientists Monday began the slow task of identifying what they believe are the bones of legendary guerrilla Ernesto "Che" Guevara, 30 years after he was shot by Bolivian troops.

A skeleton, including a skull which the Cuban scientific team leader said bore the heavy features of the charismatic revolutionary, was taken from a mass grave in a mountain village Sunday to the east Bolivian city of Santa Cruz.

While Doctor Jorge Gonzalez insisted final verification of the remains would take five days, his Cuban, Argentine and Bolivian team members did not hide their optimism that they had found Guevara.

The skeleton — one of the remains of seven supposed leftist guerrillas buried in a mass grave near the village of Vallegrande in 1967 — was found without its hands.

The Bolivian troops who executed the Communist icon in October 1967 cut off his hands so his fingerprints would serve as proof he was dead. They buried him in a secret location.

"We maintain our rigorously scientific position that still does not allow us to say anything for certain," said Dr. Gonzalez, "everything said today about the identification of the bones is purely

the responsibility of journalists."

But Dr. Gonzalez said over the weekend he felt a "personal conviction" that the bones were Guevara's. He said work at Santa Cruz's Japanese Hospital was beginning with a meticulous cleaning of the bones from the seven sets of skeletons and that scientists would begin to measure and reconstruct broken pieces Tuesday.

There is abundant data about Guevara's appearance and dental records, including the results of an official autopsy, which recorded that he was executed with a burst of nine bullets.

The Argentine-born doctor and hero of Cuba's 1959 revolution was trying to export communism to South America's mainland when he was captured, wounded and starving, on Oct. 8, 1967, and shot by a soldier in Vallegrande's school.

Bolivia began the quest for Guevara's bones in December 1995 after retired General Mario Vargas Salinas broke two decades of military silence to say he could identify the spot where he ordered the burial of the guerrillas.

But he failed to locate the spot and the search has since been repeatedly suspended and resumed, with excavations centering on an airstrip outside Vallegrande.

## Hollywood bids farewell to actor Jimmy Stewart

BEVERLY HILLS (R) — Hollywood bid a final farewell Monday to one of the greatest stars from the golden age of movies — Jimmy Stewart.

Dozens of fans crammed trendy Rodeo Drive outside the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church where many of Stewart's long-time friends and colleagues attended a memorial service.

The actor, who died last Wednesday of a heart attack at the age of 89, was buried earlier in the day at a private funeral at a Los Angeles cemetery. He had been a virtual recluse since his wife, Gloria, died in 1994.

Nancy Reagan was at the service Monday, but without her husband, former President Ronald Reagan, who is suffering from Alzheimer's disease and is rarely seen in public.

A frail-looking Bob Hope attended with his wife Dolores, as did two of Stewart's big-screen leading ladies, June Allyson and Esther Williams. Actor Robert Stack and Comedienne Carol Burnett were also among the

75-strong congregation. Inside the Spanish-style church, Reverend James Morrison eulogised Stewart as a war hero, who served his country in the World War II.

Later, a bugler from the air force played "Taps" (The Last Post) for a man who flew bombing missions over Germany and ended the war the highest-ranking Hollywood star in the U.S. Armed Services.

He won the distinguished Flying Cross and later served in the air force reserve for many years. "He was a man ... of great success, but he would never have measured success as most measure it today, in terms of status, position, wealth," Rev. Morrison told the congregation.

"He would measure success in the ability that one had to relate to other people and enrich a life, and indeed he did enrich lives." The minister noted that Stewart was a long-time Presbyterian, who regularly attended services at the church just a block away from the ritzy shops of Rodeo Drive — a symbol

of conspicuous materialism many of Stewart's screen characters might have rejected. He was remembered by fans as portraying a decent American "everyman" in many of his nearly 80 films.

"He probably epitomised what is best about America," said Linda Brown, a tourist from Jacksonville, Florida, outside the church. Her husband Quince said: "Jimmy Stewart was one of the greatest actors. There will never be another."

Stewart's twin daughters Judy and Kelly and his stepson, Michael McLean, were accompanied into the church for the 45-minute service by an air force honour guard.

"When they played 'taps,' we all fell apart," Edie Wasserman, wife of legendary Hollywood studio executive Lew Wasserman, told reporters after the service.

"He was the most loyal, honest and true gentleman I ever knew," said Ms. Allyson, who played opposite Stewart in The Glenn Miller Story.

President Reagan, a former actor who presented Stewart with a Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1985, last week mourned the loss of a "close, close friend."

"We shared so many of life's precious moments with him and with Gloria," Mr. Reagan and his wife, Nancy, said in a statement. "We'll miss him terribly, but we know they're happy to be together once again."

Daily Variety, the trade paper of Hollywood, carried two full-page tributes to Stewart Monday.

One, from Republic Pictures, showed the actor in a still from It's A Wonderful Life surrounded by his screen wife Donna Reed and their children.

"Every time a bell rings, we'll think of you" it said, in a paraphrase of the line from the film in which his daughter said everytime a bell rings, an angel gets his wings.

Sony Pictures had an ad showing Stewart in a still from Mr. Smith Goes To Washington saying simply: "Farewell, Mr. Smith."

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## Myopia vs peace

THE GENERIC internal crisis in Israel that sprang up lately over Ariel Sharon's appointment as finance minister, and his insistence that he would accept the position only after he is accepted as a member of the 'inner circle of ministers' which is responsible for peace negotiations with the Palestinians, is not really much of a crisis, and the appointment of Yaakov Neeman instead of Sharon, is not much of a solution either, at least as far as peace is concerned.

What remains is that the Israeli cabinet, as it stood at the time of elections, and as it stands today, has managed to stay busy over several internal crises related to its own survival, that is its own political interests versus the interests of Israel as a country. But it is yet to learn the basic concept of coexistence; the basis for any possible true peace in the region and subsequently the stability of the political system in Israel itself.

The belief that Sharon's acceptance in the 'inner circle' would have put the peace process in deeper crisis is inaccurate. Benjamin Netanyahu's 'inner circle,' with or without Sharon, could not have done much more to halt the peace process and again bring the whole region to the edge of armed conflict.

The fact that the post in question is that of finance, it is being reported that it will be easier for Arabs to talk dollars and cents with another man than Sharon, whose history is rich with hostility and extremism towards the Arabs. But this is not the problem, not at least for now. The real problem is Netanyahu's ongoing intransigence and the set of priorities he has established for himself and his fragile coalition, priorities that have managed to alienate Israel's peace partners.

The Middle East and North Africa summit to be held in Doha, Qatar, is proof of this; for it is not Israel's internal crisis that has managed to establish such a unified Arab front against normalisation with Israel. It is the fact that the Likud-led government has not yet begun to seek a fair and lasting settlement with the Palestinians and the rest of the Arab World.

Sure enough, the fragile coalition that is being used as an excuse for Israel's anti-peace politics makes the right-wing cabinet seem very weak, but what makes the whole formula of peace truly feeble is the fact that Netanyahu is not worried about what makes or breaks the future of Israel and the region as much as he is worried about what keeps his reign, even at a huge cost that Israel will eventually have to pay.

Until a dramatic change of 'inner circle' strategy comes about, it does not matter whether it is a Neeman vs Sharon case, or inner vs outer circles case. It is and will be a matter of the peace vs the war camp. It is a matter of the future of the region as a whole.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER for Al Arab Al Yawm decried some Arab countries' conduct of denying Palestinians holding travel documents or temporary passports the right to travel freely in the Arab World. Riham Farra said that the Palestinians are in need to move about and earn a living now that they are living in the diaspora, awaiting a solution for their problem and their repatriation. The writer said that some Arab governments, which prevent entry of Palestinians with these documents, justify their measure by saying that they do not wish to see the displaced Palestinians settle permanently in the Arab World and increase the demographic burden there. Other governments justify this by saying that the prevention is in response to a request by the Palestinian leadership which, they claim, has demanded that the refugees remain in their present location until a final settlement for their problem has been found, added the writer. She said the Palestinians should be allowed to live freely in the Arab World until the time has come for their repatriation and demanded a quick solution to their travel problems. The writer said the Palestinian leadership should interfere and secure for the Palestinians the right to travel and end their isolation and imprisonment in the camps.

A WRITER for Al Dustour reflected on the situation in the Arab World and compared it to the situation in Europe, saying that while the Arabs are going more and more backward and facing poverty, the Europeans are finding ways to overcome the consequences of the wars they had among themselves and unifying their countries to ensure continued prosperity in the future. Rakan Majali quoted recent U.N. statistics which showed that one third of the Arab World lives in poverty at a time when the Arab countries' food import bill is rising every year as the population continually grows, without any solution in sight. Noting that the Arab World has millions of dunums of arable land that remain unexploited, the writer said that the Arab governments possess vast funds stashed in foreign banks and benefiting Europeans and Americans' drive to achieve further prosperity and very little is invested in Arab states. The writer said that while the enemies of the past, among the Europeans, are seeking unity, the Arabs, who claim they have the same aspirations, language and faith remain in disarray and move backwards, with many of their people facing poverty and starvation. He said that unless the Arab countries remove the barriers that divide them and unless they seek solidarity, there is no chance for the attainment of prosperity enjoyed by the European nations.

## Washington Watch

# Netanyahu's first year — a truly 'clean break' from the Oslo agreements

By Dr. James J. Zogby

FOR MONTHS now, Israel has been gripped by the ongoing drama playing out within the year-old Netanyahu government. The quick-tongued, media-savvy prime minister has shown in his first year in office that he could win an election, but has difficulty holding together an unruly coalition.

If Israel's new election law was designed to produce a strong executive, it has yielded the opposite. The prime minister won his election by a mere percentage point. Since his party did not win a majority, in order to form a government he was forced to forge a coalition with seven diverse political parties.

To do so, Netanyahu had to be shifty and quick-footed. That he was, but he was not honest. The new prime minister displayed the same lack of veracity in dealing with his own political allies as he did in his public pronouncements and his private dealings with Arab leaders. As a result, the quick-footed prime minister has repeatedly tripped over his own feet.

Broken promises, secret deals and bad-faith manipulations have cost Netanyahu dearly. Not only has he alienated several Arab and Western leaders, he has also lost support from within his own government. The story in Israel for the past few months has been one of repeated crises that have rocked the Netanyahu government. There have been scandals and there have been defections from his cabinet, followed by harsh criticisms from the prime minister's former allies. Netanyahu has survived, but he has been weakened.

It is now conceivable that the Netanyahu premiership may not survive to the year 2000. Some Israelis now expect the prime minister to fall by mid-1998.

It is also likely that Netanyahu may not survive a future internal election within his own party. The competition to replace him, in part, explains the machinations of his ex-Finance Minister Dan Meridor (who resigned in protest), his finance minister-designate, Ariel Sharon (who is a

master of intra-party manipulation) and his Foreign Minister David Levy (another master manipulator, who is playing for a post-Netanyahu position). But through all of these self-imposed wounds, the prime minister can point to at least one area where he has succeeded. While feigning a commitment to honour Oslo, Netanyahu also committed himself to making a 'clean break' with the Oslo ground rules.

**"Thus, despite the inability of the prime minister to hold together his own coalition, from an Arab perspective, the prime minister's first year record is clear. He did what he set out to do. Israelis may joke that they cannot believe anything their prime minister tells them, but to the Arabs, Netanyahu's actions have been quite direct."**

The break was not so clean, but it has been real. In one year, the prime minister virtually dismantled the process he inherited. This is one area where he was true to his word, where he fulfilled his commitments.

The Syrian and Lebanese fronts, already stalled and wounded during Labour's rule, have received serious new blows. By rejecting progress that had been made during his predecessor's tenure, and ratcheting up the rhetorical ante, Netanyahu has sought to make negotiations with Syria impossible.

On the Palestinian front, Netanyahu also sought to and succeeded in writing his own rules, thereby ending progress on that track as well.

Netanyahu took issues that had been negotiated but not implemented, and declared it necessary to renegotiate their terms. As a result, Oslo, which had already been deformed, was left dismembered. Instead of seeing incremental steps towards realisation of their rights, Palestinians were locked into isolated

'cantons' with their economy in shambles.

At the beginning of his tenure, the U.S. urged the Arabs to 'wait and see' how the new prime minister would function. It was argued that Netanyahu may only be a captive of his right wing coalition and not its leader, and that as he gained experience and confidence, he might show himself to be a pragmatist who could lead his right-wing coalition to make the needed compromises for

or dissembled honouring commitments made to the Palestinians as part of the Hebron package. Thus far, there has been no movement on the port and airport for Gaza, the long-promised safe passage road between Gaza and the West Bank, no movement on economic development for the crippled Palestinian economy and an insulting offer to redeploy Israeli troops from only two per cent of the West Bank.

Thus, despite the inability of the prime minister to hold together his own coalition, from an Arab perspective, the prime minister's first year record is clear. He did what he set out to do. Israelis may joke that they cannot believe anything their prime minister tells them, but to the Arabs, Netanyahu's actions have been quite direct.

In a recent interview evaluating his first year in office, Netanyahu said as much. He claimed that he had been victorious in accomplishing his objectives of stopping Israel from returning to its '67 borders and dividing Jerusalem.

Netanyahu said: "I know people are anxious and afraid. They ask 'where is all this leading.' But you must understand if we don't want to return to shrunken borders... and if we don't want to divide Jerusalem, then we must show the ability to stand firm and emerge strengthened from this period."

The Israeli prime minister went on to observe that "the price is that the Palestinians don't accept this and are trying to bring back the old rules. I know they are having a difficult time getting used to us."

What should be of even greater concern to the Arab World is that despite the prime minister's rejection of the formula for peace and his obvious domestic political problem, there is no relief in sight.

Should Netanyahu be removed by the Knesset, those in Likud who seek to replace him are clearly no better. Benny Begin, Dan Meridor and Ariel Sharon, though different in many respects, are also hardline rightists, no more willing to

honour the mutual recognition and land for peace formulae of Oslo. And with Netanyahu having recruited more religious rightists to Likud, that party's politics will be hardened in the future.

Even more disturbing is the effect that Netanyahu has had on shifting the entire policy debate in Israel to the right. While seeking to lower Arab expectations of what peace will yield, Netanyahu has sought to raise Israeli expectations of what they can and must keep in any peace agreement.

It is instructive to note that while sharply criticising Netanyahu's governing style and his failure to move towards peace, Labour's new leader, Ehud Barak, has committed himself to a peace proposal that appears to differ little from the 'map' put forward by Netanyahu.

Both leaders insist that there be no return to the '67 borders;

— greater Jerusalem remain united under Israeli sovereignty and borders be expanded to include the Maale Adumim bloc to the east;

— the majority of Israeli settlers in the West Bank remain under Israeli sovereignty; and

— the Jordan River and its approaches remain under Israeli control.

Despite party rivalries and coalition instability, it has become quite possible that at this point in the era of Netanyahu, an Israeli consensus be found on the shape of a final peace arrangement with the Palestinians. It is also quite clear that this Israeli consensus falls far short of minimum Palestinian needs and aspirations.

It is a far cry from the promise of Oslo. This Israeli drive to impose a distorted map on a captive Palestinian population represents the type of 'clean break' Netanyahu promised when he was elected one year ago. Despite his other obvious failings, the prime minister delivered on this promise and so far succeeded in dragging much of Israel along with him.

## LETTERS

To the Editor:

I APPLAUD Jomana Karadshah for her interesting letter "Boy, it's a boy!" (Jordan Times, July 3, 1997) and I strongly agree with her. Many women in our society accept their status of a reproduction machines. As Ms. Karadshah suggests, women should be encouraged to be stronger and get more educated.

I agree, but I emphasize strength. I believe that women in our society are educated academically. I believe there are more women students at the University of Jordan than men students (at least that was the case when I was a student there). However, many of them were not and are not ambitious. What really bothers me is that some, if

To the Editor:

I AM a Jordanian American who currently resides in the United States, and I am also a frequent reader of the Jordan Times.

To elaborate on the letter "Boy, it's a boy!" (Jordan Times, July 3, 1997), I would say that even women in the Western societies are not treated equally yet and some governments have passed laws against discrimination to protect minorities, including women.

The difference between women in our society and those in the Western countries is that in the

To the Editor:

I CANNOT describe the sadness I felt upon seeing the photo showing the torn pages of the Holy Koran (Jordan Times, July 7, 1997). I can only imagine how the schoolgirls must have felt seeing the walls defaced and, most of all, seeing

To the Editor:

THERE IS an emotional residue left behind from any fine work of art. We read a wonderful novel and the characters are alive in our minds days and weeks later, telling us something about ourselves. We listen to good music and feel our spirits rise to ethereal heights, or stand in front of a powerful painting, dazzled by the magical mixture of colour and texture, as if the artist had turned a spotlight on some aspect of life we had seen but never really lived.

## Women are men's equals

not many, were satisfied with just marrying and raising children. There is nothing wrong with marriage and raising children; however, their education and talents are wasted if they do that alone. I know this because I know many cases, including of friends and relatives. They were among the top students, but what a waste of talents and efforts.

Women, I believe, need more than academic education. They need to educate themselves socially. They should know that they can do whatever a man can do. They can be teachers, medical doctors, professors, engineers, scientists, prime ministers, parliament members, etc. They can

## Fighting for equality

West, women have "created" equality by organising and implementing changes and fighting for equal opportunities. Women in Jordan are just talking about it.

As far as education is concerned, the percentage of educated women is, surprisingly, higher in Jordan than it is in the West. As for preferring boys, even in the West it is preferable to have a boy in the family to carry the family name. But that

## No desecration allowed

the extreme lack of respect for the Holy Book.

It was not always so in Muslim history. There was a time when no one would have dared such

## Enriching art

Sometimes, this heavenly emotional state is interrupted by things such as empty Coca-Cola cans.

A few days ago, I attended the opening of an art exhibition of one of the pioneer artists in Jordan and was living the beauty of his paintings when some people started placing empty cans on the stands in front of the largest paintings. They did that perhaps out of mere artistic taste that inspired them to add their touch

excel and can be great mothers. They should believe that there is nothing wrong with working, with being independent and with being a leader. Until women stand for what is their right, most men will not change their attitudes.

As a Muslim, I believe the religious excuse is lame. Religion encourages women to work and to lead. Prophet Mohammad worked for his wife. She was his boss and employer.

As long as men keep interpreting religion without any regard for women and without understanding their issues, women will be the losers.

Osama K. Alshaykh

UC Berkeley

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does not mean that our daughters are not loved equally.

I am the father of two wonderful girls whom I love the most in my life. I would be happy to have a son who will carry my name to the next generation, but he certainly would not be treated any better than his sisters.

I think women in Jordan need to ask for and effect changes, and fight for equal opportunities.

Nedal Abu-Obeid,

<nabu-obeid@space.net>

a deed. How insignificant people's faith has become, unfortunately.

Shelia B. Cassidy

RIVME @pacbell.net

to the work of the artist or, more likely, because of lack of aesthetic awareness, due to the general degraded estimation of arts in our society.

However, in the end, the empty cans are removed, the gallery doors close, the music stops, but that spotlight remains, allowing us to see in new ways and maybe forcing us to stop the visual pollution in our daily life.

Maysoon Hasan Haymoor,

Amman.

## Pass the parcel

By Ali Kassay

"I WOULD like to send this envelope by registered mail, please," said the client as she presented a padded, addressed and sealed envelope to the post office clerk.

Normally, one would expect this official to check that the address is complete and decipherable, then to accept the consignment without further ado. This happens when people do their job in a mechanical fashion, without putting their heart and soul in their work. In Jordan, things are different. We do not allow official status to constrain our free and friendly spirit, nor to hinder our intellectual curiosity. So the officer inquired: "What is in it?"

Not getting in the spirit of things in the proper manner, the client explained that the contents of the envelope were none of his business, but her business, and, in due course, that of the recipient. His interest should stop at conveying the parcel from source to destination.

These words, which might be considered cutting, fell on deaf ears, if indeed they fell on any ears at all. By then the officer had been joined by a covey of his colleagues whose sense of the public good had led them to the sacrifice of putting aside their cups of tea and congregating around, to play a curious variation on the theme of pass the parcel, in which they passed the envelope from one to the other, each pausing to hold it against the light and feel it before advancing his theory on its mysterious contents.

"It feels like cloth," suggested one. "Yes," added another. "It must be commercial samples." "Not at all," interjected a third. "This is the padding of the envelope. It is probably just printed matter." "It feels like cloth to me," insisted the first who held his ground with refreshing tenacity. "Anyway, we shall find out for sure when we put it through the X-ray machine," said a fourth, cutting doubt with certainty.

Keen to move on to the stage of the proceedings where she pays her money and gets on with her life, the client explained: "Look, if it is that important, it is a garment that I received by mail order and it turned out to be the wrong size, so I want to return it."

"I told you it was cloth," exclaimed the first officer, triumphantly. But his colleagues were not listening. They were all pointing accusatory looks at the client and shaking their heads disapprovingly at her attempt to pull a fast one. Eventually, one of them found utterance: "You mean that it is commercial samples." The woman assured him that it was nothing of the sort, and repeated her description of the contents of the envelope.

"Nevertheless, it is a parcel," said Mr. Take it in an unsealed container or to the parcels office downtown, manifest the contents of the parcel, and pay the duty of all in that office, pay your dues plus export and sales taxes, send the consignment in their presence, then have it stamped and signed by each one of them in turn." Then he added, to reassure the customer of his magnanimity: "It should not take you more than a day."

Which leads me to recall the old days before our postal services had developed, when one's best bet of getting something abroad was to entrust it to a traveller who would mail it once he reaches his destination, or else deliver it by hand.

At the time, friendship with airline crews was an asset of high premium. Today, thanks to the advances in technology and to the remarkable progress that we have realised in leaps and bounds as we ourselves lead into the twenty-first century, one's best bet of getting something abroad is to entrust it to a mail carrier who would mail it on else deliver it by hand.

There has been a long history of travellers, as Russians, who newly published KGB travel books as they returned from Moscow, and then, a few years ago, the then Russian foreign service and said that the lack of operational unit of women, and since there has been no word

## Russia mi

By Philippa Fletcher

Reuter

When Russia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Andrei Kozyrev, went to London to meet with British Foreign Secretary, Lord Hailsham, he had to go very early in the morning.

At mid-June, Kozyrev was in the heart of the city, where he was lined with women every night, and he was in the state of mind to play a curious variation on the theme of pass the parcel, in which they passed the envelope from one to the other, each pausing to hold it against the light and feel it before advancing his theory on its mysterious contents.

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## Nobel laureates make appeal for world's children

By Raul Zamora  
Agence France-Presse

PARIS — Twenty Nobel peace laureates have taken up the fight against the growing "culture of violence" they say has engulfed a group not in a position to speak for itself — the world's children.

The solemn appeal, entitled "For the children of the world," was addressed last week to heads of state of all member countries of the U.N. General Assembly and signed by such notables as Mother Teresa, the dalai lama, Nelson Mandela, Aung San Suu Kyi and Yasser Arafat.

Others who have backed the appeal include Arun Gandhi, grandson of the great Indian political and spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi who embodied the principle of non-violence.

The laureates demanded action to create a "culture of non-violence," specifically that the issue top the international agenda for the new millennium and that concrete measures be taken as of January 1, 2000, to promote non-violence on a world scale.

"Many children — too many children — live a 'culture of violence,'" the Nobel Peace Prize winners' statement said. Children in every country of the world are "silently suffering the effects and consequences of violence."

This violence, it said, "takes many different forms: between children on streets, at school, in family life and in the community."

There is physical violence, psychological violence, socio-economic violence, environmental violence and political violence.

"We wish to contribute to reduce their suffering," and allow children to discover "that violence is not inevitable," it said.

The statement was delivered at a press conference at the United Nations Children's Fund (UNESCO) by Mairead Corrigan-Maguire, the Northern Irish human rights activist and 1976 laureate who is honorary president of the appeal.

The three-point plea asked that "the first decade of the new millennium, the years 2000-2010, be declared the 'decade for a culture of non-violence'."

It also asked that "at the start of the decade the year 2000 be declared the 'year of education for non-violence'."

And thirdly, it urged that "non-violence be taught at

every level in our societies during this decade, to make the children of the world aware of the real, practical meaning and benefits of non-violence in their daily lives, in order to reduce the violence, and consequent suffering, perpetrated against them and humanity in general."

The laureates lamented that as the world enters the third millennium, it is transmitting to its children magnificent technology but "a sick planet, the globalisation of warfare ... and a confused and torn human family."

Children will need the wisdom that failed us to renounce what today has become suicidal violence, the statement said.

UNESCO General Director Federico Mayor gave the statement his full backing and offered UNESCO

premises to help, in line with a 1994 UNESCO initiative to transform what it calls the prevailing culture of war into a "culture of peace."

"Both peace and children are the two lights amidst darkness that give us hope," Mr. Mayor said in a statement calling children "our best heritage ... our most important wealth."

"We must all of us in our daily behaviour be examples of non-violence," he said.

Among the other laureates who signed the appeal were Mikhail Gorbachev, Shimon Perez, Elie Wiesel, Adolfo Perez Esquivel, Betty Williams, Lech Walesa, Desmond Tutu, Oscar Arias Sanchez, Frederik de Klerk, Ramos Horta, Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo, Joseph Rotblat and UNICEF.

## Russia minister takes on world's oldest profession

By Philippa Fletcher  
Reuters

MOSCOW — When Russia's Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov went looking for prostitutes in Moscow, he didn't have to go very far.

Until mid-June, two major streets in the heart of the city were lined with young women every night and just opposite the state duma, Russia's lower house of parliament, their numbers swelled into a small crowd.

"I was nearly dragged out of the car — it was a good thing the doors were closed," Mr. Kulikov told a news conference.

"All in all, there were about 500 of them, and there were a few groups who were guarded by militiamen from the left flank and from the right. There was clearly nothing spontaneous about that," he said.

The minister — who said he had been told about the prostitutes by a friend and had ordered a crackdown — is not the only senior Russian official to display a striking ignorance about what goes on at night in the middle of the capital.

Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov appeared to have been put on the spot when a television interviewer read him a letter from a viewer complaining that her teenage daughter had been wrongly accused by police of soliciting as she waited at a bus stop.

He followed up with a question: What did the viewer have to say to the viewer's suspicion that police were in league with the pimps and hassled innocent women and girls in case they were a threat to the illegal business under their protection?

"We have been working for a year-and-a-half on this problem," said Mr. Luzhkov, totally unfazed, "and are solving it."

That was several months ago, long before Mr. Kulikov made his evening tour and decided that it looked bad to allow the "night butterflies," as they are known here, to flutter freely on Moscow's main streets in full view of foreign guests.

"We cannot be shamed before the whole world when people come for the 850th anniversary celebrations," he said.

Moscow has a long history of using prostitutes to ensnare foreigners, as Russians learned during glasnost, when newly published archives showed the KGB had recruited hookers as agents during the 1950s' international festival of youth hosted by Moscow.

Two years ago, the then head of Russia's foreign intelligence service bemoaned the lack of female agents and said that, from 1996, there would be a special operational unit made up of women.

He did not say what the unit would do and since then there has been no word



A suspected Russian prostitute is locked up in a police cell after she was detained during a night raid in central Moscow. Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov, horrified by the sight of hundreds of women lining the streets near parliament, has proposed moving the unofficial red light district elsewhere (Reuters photo)

on whether it was set up or its role.

And, while in the Soviet Union prostitution was limited and controlled, economic hardships and organised crime have brought a boom in the world's oldest profession, making it hard to spot who might be working for the state and who for a criminal gang or to support impoverished relatives.

Foreigners are by no means the only clients, although they are lured by advertisements in English-language dailies offering "massages" or "introductions" and the slogan "do it tonight" touted by the night flight club, a popular businessmen's haunt.

Mr. Kulikov did not object to the business per se, but clearly felt it was better for tourists not to have to weave through the crowds of women on the streets near parliament.

"People must enjoy themselves, but in the evening there will be that category of 'entrepreneurs' there," he said, proposing that the whole business be moved to

Kotelnicheskaya embankment on the banks of the Moskva River.

But, judging by the reaction from residents on the embankment, a new red light district would not be welcome.

"I'd grab Kulikov in a certain place and string him up from there," said Lyubov, a pensioner in a blue overall and headscarf, looking at the Soviet star atop a nearby vast Stalin-era skyscraper, built for the cream of Soviet society.

People here are the type who feel that prostitution is just another of the ills brought upon them by Communism's collapse. One man had even taught his dog to bark at the word "democrats".

Whether or not Mr. Kulikov is cowed by such opposition, there are no signs of any new arrivals, although the numbers of women in the centre have dwindled and their police escorts appear to have returned to the other side of the barricades.

Russia still lacks law against prostitution

It is all part of a campaign to clean up the streets, in line with drives to smarten up buildings and bridges with fresh coats of paint and chase away tramps and people from southern parts of Russia and other former Soviet republics.

But with no law against prostitution in Russia's new criminal code, the operation looks strikingly like a Soviet-era economic plan, with numbers, not results, the real aim.

One central police station was buzzing a week ago as officers brought in regular hordes of heavily-made-up young women in buses and patrol cars.

Minutes later, they had paid fines for such things as disturbing the peace, or not having the right documents, and were heading back to the streets, coyly hiding their faces and in some cases protected from prying journalists by policemen. Sergei Semyonich, deputy head of police head-

quarters in the central district, said prostitution had nothing to do with the operation, which also involved busloads of crack interior ministry troops equipped with flak jackets and guns.

"We are arresting citizens for not having documents, for any number of violations of the criminal and administrative codes," he insisted, without explaining why only women were brought in.

"We may be doing it because we have guests here, we may not," he added cryptically, referring to a conference of mayors from the major world cities held in Moscow this month.

The police insisted that the fines were for legitimate violations but one officer, who did not want to be named but who was angry at being distracted from crime-fighting, said the police protection noted by Mr. Kulikov was still going on.

"How can we fight prostitution like this?" he said. "We just end up breaking the law ourselves."

## Prince Hassan returns home

(Continued from page 1)

As for the security of the Middle East, the Crown Prince noted that regional security should not only be based on "Israel, oil, and other components of (Western) security," but on the values of "soft security" based on a humanitarian agenda.

While dual containment (of Iraq and Iran) seems to be not working, new arrangements for the region's security should include all the countries of the Middle East including Iraq, Iran and Turkey, the Prince stressed to his hosts.

During his visit to Hungary, the Crown Prince held talks with President Arpad

Goncz, Foreign Minister Laszlo Kovacs, Parliament Speaker Zoltan Gal and other officials.

The Crown Prince also addressed an opening session of the International Congress of Asian and North African Studies (ICANAS).

The Prince shared with the 1,500 scholars from 70 countries in Europe, Asia and Africa his vision of a new world order based on human considerations and characterised by persistent dialogue between the different religions and cultures.

He also delivered the same message to a meeting in Geneva, earlier in the week, organised by the office of the U.N. High

Commissioner for Refugees.

Almost 80 per cent of the estimated 26 million world refugees come from the Muslim World, the Crown Prince noted.

A Zakat (alms) fund, the Prince said, would help end the plight of many refugees and provide for the needs of millions of poor people around the Muslim World.

Another theme that the Crown Prince addressed was islamophobia. Terrorism that some in the world would like to tie to Islam and Muslims is a phenomenon that is not exclusive to a certain religion, culture or ethnicity, the Crown Prince emphasised during his talks with different leaders.

## Israeli army chief in Amman

(Continued from page 1)

Mohammed Salamah Al Houwayan, visited Israel last month and met with Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai in Tel Aviv. There was no confirmation from the Jordanian side on this visit.

The reports said that army units from the two sides participated last month in a military training exercise in Baqoura to test "the evacuation capabilities of the two armies if

the March 19 accident (where seven Israeli schoolgirls were killed) was repeated.

Last year, Mr. Mordechai visited the Kingdom and met with His Majesty King Hussein and former Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti.

Jordanian-Israeli military cooperation comes amid worries from several Arab countries, especially Syria, Iraq and Egypt, about a Turkish-Israeli military pact that is seen to

threaten regional security.

The two countries signed several military agreements which allow their air forces to hold air exercises in each other's air space.

The two countries also agreed to hold military war games in the Mediterranean.

Dr. Majali repeatedly said that the Kingdom will not take part in any military cooperation scheme between Ankara and Tel Aviv.

## Truce committee calls for restraint in south Lebanon

(Continued from page 1)

eye, in villages in south Lebanon and confirmed that at least two rockets fired by Lebanese guerrillas slammed into northern Israel.

The panel, however, did not explicitly accuse either of the sides of violating the terms of the April 26, 1996 ceasefire accord which bans combatants from targeting civilians or launching attacks from civilian areas.

The agreement put an end to Israel's 17-day "Grapes of Wrath" offensive against Hizbollah guerrillas in Lebanon which left 175 people, mostly civilians, dead.

The statement said the Lebanese and Israeli del-

egations to the committee — made up of France, Israel, Lebanon, Syria and the United States — exchanged accusations of truce violations.

The committee convened at the headquarters of the U.N. Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in this Israeli-Lebanese border town to hear two truce violation complaints by Lebanon and another two protests by Israel.

Lebanon had filed complaints over the wounding of seven Lebanese civilians in Israeli attacks in southern Lebanon Sunday and the injury of a civilian in an Israeli attack Wednesday.

The Israeli attacks of

Sunday came in response to the killing of an Israeli army officer in a Hizbollah ambush inside the Israeli-occupied border zone of South Lebanon.

Israel lodged complaints after unidentified guerrillas in southern Lebanon fired at least seven Katyusha rockets into northern Israel Sunday and concerning shelling of its northern territory Thursday. The attacks did not cause injuries or damage.

Hizbollah spearheads an armed campaign to drive Israeli troops out of the buffer zone set up by Israel in 1985 to prevent attacks by anti-Israeli guerrillas on its northern border.

## Iraq-Kuwait dispute dominates Arab Games

(Continued from page 1)

Arab relations — even in sports.

Iraq was left out of the seventh Arab Games in Syria in 1992, but was invited this time amid some rapprochement between Baghdad and other Arab capitals.

Lebanon first sought to cool tension by trying to avoid the two countries' having to compete face to face.

But Sheikh Ahmad Al Fakh Al Sabah, head of the Kuwait Olympic Committee, has said no Kuwaiti athlete will take part in any sport in which any Iraqi takes part at all.

He said that if Iraq attends the games, the emirate's 277-member delegation will march in the opening ceremony holding pictures of Kuwaitis reported missing in the Gulf war.

"We will not accept to meet them as long as we have one prisoner" in Iraq, said Sheikh Ahmad, whose father was shot and killed by Iraqis during the invasion.

Kuwait has been campaigning for information about 600 Kuwaitis and others who have been missing since the invasion. Kuwait insists it has evidence they are jailed in Iraq, but Baghdad denies that.

## Muslim Brotherhood will boycott elections

(Continued from page 1)

shown clear intention to participate in the elections at the beginning of this year and started preparing its ticket in June, the Council of Thirty's decision to boycott the elections "will be abided by the front," the Muslim Brotherhood leader said, adding that, however, "it is likely that some members of the front will run independently."

The Muslim Brotherhood has issued several statements protesting against the introduction of the one-person, one-vote system, saying that it is aimed at reducing the Islamists' representation in Parliament.

All IAF members share the Muslim Brotherhood's aversion to the 1993 election law, substantially left unchanged by recent amendments introduced in May. Both the IAF and the Muslim Brotherhood have also expressed the worry that the government might forge the elections.

However, the party

within the IAF in favour of participating in the next parliamentary elections bases its position on the fact that prognostics agree that the IAF is very likely to improve its 1993 elections performance.

"If it manages the election campaign properly, the IAF could win 25 to 30 seats," a political analyst said.

Other observers expect that the decision could provoke an internal schism within the IAF ranks between those abiding by the council's decision and those determined to participate in the elections.

The prospect that IAF Secretary General Ishaq Farhan will resign should the Muslim Brotherhood vote in favour of the boycott has been floating in political circles for the past two weeks, and most analysts seem to await it.

Excluding the possibility of a schism, an observer close to the Muslim Brotherhood's high cadres said "the IAF would be nothing

without the backing of the Brotherhood, and people will not simply show up at the polls, if the Brotherhood decides to boycott (the elections)."

"Dr. Farhan will definitely resign, if the Council of Thirty decides against participating (in the elections)," the source added.

Observers also expect that the decision taken today by the Islamists will lead to a similar decision by the other 10 opposition parties joining the IAF into the Higher Committee for the coordination among the opposition parties.

Such parties, including the leftists and the Ba'athists, have declared in a statement earlier that they were exploring the possibility of boycotting the elections "in preliminary fear that the government will interfere in the electoral process and forge the results in favour of its candidates."



## Jordan gives Egyptian workers one more month to obtain work permits

AMMAN (J.T.) — A mandate given to Egyptian workers to conform to Ministry of Labour regulations and obtain valid work permits allowing them to work in Jordan has been extended for yet a third time to give the workers more time to abide by the regulations.

Labour Minister Saleh Khasawneh said the ministry, acting upon directions from Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, is now offering the workers one more month from Wednesday, July 9, 1997 to comply and pay their work permit fees.

According to Dr. Khasawneh, the prime minister reached the decision during

a meeting in Cairo this week of the Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee, co-chaired by Dr. Majali and his Egyptian counterpart Kamal Ganzouri.

The Egyptian workers were first given three months starting from the beginning of last March, and then the mandate was extended for three weeks and now for another month.

According to Dr. Khasawneh, a total of 90,000 Egyptian workers have complied with the regulations and obtained work permits since the start of March, raising the total number of Egyptian work-

ers holding valid permits to 125,000.

But, he said, large numbers of non-Jordanian workers, including Egyptians, are still working without valid permits and it is hoped that they would benefit from the one month extension in order to avoid being evicted from the country.

Upon the expiry of the new mandate, the minister pointed out, there can be no excuse for any non-Jordanian worker to remain in the country without a work permit and employers will have to bear the responsibility for their violation of the law.

When the second extension was announced, the Ministry of Labour affirmed that the government will strictly apply the law and requested that workers without valid work permits leave the country and pay both requisite exit fees and any other fines which they may have incurred.

According to some estimates, Jordan has at least 300,000 non-Jordanian workers employed in construction work, domestic service or in farming and a number of services shunned by the Jordanian job seekers.

## Arab Gulf states earn high income in first half of '97 despite oil price fall

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Arab Gulf states netted high oil earnings in the first half of 1997 although world crude prices have since fallen due to slackening seasonal demand, bankers said Tuesday.

Oil prices have dived by nearly \$6 a barrel since the start of 1997, but their average of \$19.2 in the first six months hit one of the highest levels since the end of the oil boom 14 years ago.

The level is higher than the price average of \$18.85 recorded in the second half of 1996, when the income of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries soared to its highest level in 13 years.

"The GCC's oil revenues in the first half of this year were very high compared with previous corresponding periods," a Gulf banker said. "Our estimates show the income was close to \$40 billion from crude exports of around 11.6 million barrels per day (bpd)."

More than half the income was earned by Saudi Arabia, the world's dominant oil power with production of around eight million bpd.

Saudi Arabia and its five GCC partners — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — have assumed oil prices at \$14-\$17 for their 1997 budgets, far lower than the price average in the first half.

But bankers cautioned oil prices could further weaken in the third quarter because of receding seasonal demand and the expected

resumption of Iraqi crude exports after several weeks of disruption.

Surplus crude supplies, mainly from the 11-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), could also put further pressure on prices, according to oil analysts.

"The GCC budgets could record a surplus in the first quarter or the first half but the situation could be different by the end of the year, depending on the oil price trend and the size of spending," a Gulf banker said.

Bankers and oil experts have predicted crude prices would be lower than last year's average price of around \$20 a barrel, the highest since the early 1980s.

The price surge in 1996 was caused mainly by a prolonged winter in the northern hemisphere and the absence of U.N. sanctions-hit Iraq from the oil market.

GCC states rely heavily on oil exports and the price drop over the past decade has created deficits in their budgets and slowed down their economies.

The six members control nearly 45 per cent of the global recoverable oil reserves and their production of around 13.5 million bpd accounts for nearly one fifth of the world's total oil supplies.

Meanwhile, thirsty U.S. markets guzzled more oil than expected this spring, helping to halt a dramatic slide in crude prices, but with inventories on the rise and Iraq close to resuming

exports the reprieve will be brief.

The Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA) Tuesday revised up its forecast of 1997 world oil demand by 100,000 barrels per day to 73.8 million bpd due mainly to surprisingly strong growth in U.S. consumption.

"Demand growth (in the second quarter) appears to have been very robust, led by strong U.S. gasoline demand and continued high growth rates in several Asian and Latin American developing countries," the IEA said in its monthly oil market report.

Bellwether Brent Blend crude oil futures on London's International Petroleum Exchange (IPE) tumbled 30 per cent this year to a 13-month low of \$17.32 a barrel in mid-June before bouncing back to nearly \$19 in early July.

But provided Iraq returns to the market as expected under the terms of a U.N. oil-for-food accord and supply from outside of OPEC continues to grow, prices will come under further pressure as storage tanks fill up.

"Projections of world demand and non-OPEC supply for the remainder of the year suggest that there will be very substantial increases in inventories, unless OPEC crude oil output is reduced significantly," the West's energy watchdog said.

World oil inventories are estimated to have risen by 1.6 million bpd in the second quarter of 1997, leaving

stocks in the leading industrial economies 74 million barrels higher than at the end of June last year.

For the remainder of this year, demand growth and increases in non-OPEC supply of about two million bpd are expected to cancel each other out, displacing even more OPEC barrels into storage.

"Even if the high final product demand growth rates seen during the last two quarters are extended through the next two quarters, crude production will outstrip demand by an average one million bpd in 1997, with most of the (stock) build taking place in the second part of the year," said the Washington-based Petroleum Finance Company (PFC).

"While demand growth is expected to remain strong, its impact on oil prices may be offset by rising stock levels," PFC pointed out.

The absence of Iraqi exports in June cut OPEC output by 580,000 bpd to 26.4 million bpd, still well above the IEA's estimate of average 1997 demand for the group's barrels of 25.7 million bpd.

Once Iraqi production returns to normal, expected later this month or early August, the pace of the stock building will increase and could push world oil prices into a new lower range, analysts said.

"The return of Iraqi crude to the export markets is the most important near-term wild card for world oil supply," the IEA said.

REUTERS

REUTERS

### The Business of Information

#### Major Currencies & Cross Rates

Prices as at 8/07/97 18:05

Currency	USD	DEM	GBP	CHF	JPY	CAD	ITL	FRF
US Dollar	-	1.7578	0.5918	1.4648	112.50	1.3743	1712.50	5.9240
DE Mark	0.5688	-	0.3365	0.8333	64.01	0.7820	972.53	3.3723
GB Sterling	1.6898	2.9700	-	2.4752	190.32	2.3223	2891.25	10.0233
CH Franc	0.6828	119.81	0.4032	-	76.70	0.9378	1108.80	135.05
JP Yen	0.0089	1.9611	0.5253	1.3008	-	1.2205	15.20	178.77
CA Dollar	0.7276	1.2768	0.4316	1.0682	1.22	-	1243.27	1.4373
IT Lira	0.0006	1.0261	0.3454	0.8855	1523.89	0.8026	-	11.56
NL Guilder	0.5053	88.85	0.2988	74.01	56.81	0.6942	864.75	2.9841
FR Franc	0.1688	0.2964	0.0987	24.7036	18.96	0.2318	33.38	33.3800

#### Middle Eastern Currencies

Currency	USD	JOD	SAR	BAH	QAT	KUW	AED	LBP	EGP
US Dollar	-	0.7080	3.7504	0.3770	3.6400	0.3022	3.6722	1535.00	3.3869
Jordan Dinar	1.4124	-	5.2972	0.5328	5.1412	0.4268	5.1887	2168.08	4.7838
SAR	0.2666	0.1688	-	0.1005	0.97	0.0806	0.98	409.29	0.9031
Bahrain Dinar	2.65	1.8780	9.5480	-	9.56	0.8915	9.74	4071.62	8.9839
Qatar Dinar	0.2747	0.1945	1.0303	1.0303	-	0.0830	1.01	421.70	0.9305
Kuwait Dinar	1.3096	2.3432	12.4124	1.2477	12.06	-	12.15	5080.26	0.9306
Emirates Dinar	0.2723	0.1928	1.0213	1.0213	0.9912	0.0823	-	418.01	0.9323
Lebanese/1000	0.65	0.4812	2.4433	0.2456	2.3713	0.1988	2.3923	-	2.2065
Egyptian	0.2953	0.2090	1.1073	0.1113	1.0747	0.0892	1.0842	453.21	-

#### Energy

Oil	Last	Today
Brent	18.72	18.69
N. Texa	18.55	18.49
Bonny	18.72	18.69
Dubai	17.85	18.30
U.L. Gas	181.00	180.00

#### Mid-East Currencies

Currency	USD	DEM	GBP	CHF	JPY
SA Riyal	0.2666	0.4690	0.16779	0.39076	30.0237
AE Dirham	0.2723	0.47895	0.16116	0.39907	30.8628
KW Dinar	3.3098	5.82072	1.95848	4.84968	372.717
BH Dinar	0.3770	4.88418	1.58951	3.88851	298.588
CY Pound	1.9243	3.3804	1.138	2.8182	218.475

#### Metal Prices

Metal	Last	Today
Gold (oz's)	321.5	322
Silver (oz's)	4.33	4.35
Platinum (oz's)	407	411
AL (3 Months)	1572	1573
CU (3 Months)	2375	2376
Zinc (3 Months)	1450	1452
Lead (3 Months)	649	650
Ni (3 Months)	6875	6880

#### Currency Deposit Rates (Bid)

Currency	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
USD	5.51	5.62	5.71	5.90
GBP	6.73	6.93	7.03	7.12
JPY	0.49	0.50	0.56	0.78
DEM	3.00	3.00	3.06	3.16
FRF	3.25	3.27	3.32	3.38
CHF	1.43	1.40	1.43	1.51
ITL	6.87	6.76	6.59	6.48

#### Main Equity Indices

Bourse	Index	Value	Change	% Change	High	Low	Pr. Cls
New York	DOW JONES	7904.18	45.89	0.58	7908.53	7857.13	7858.49
New York	S&P 500	915.84	3.44	0.38	915.91	911.56	912.2
London	FT-SE 100	4759.9	-50.8	-1.06	4799.9	4761.9	4810.7
Tokyo	NIKKEI 225	19853.88	148.72	0.75	19928.8	19732	19705.2
Paris	CAC 40	2928.92	-18.74	-0.64	2952.46	2917.31	2947.66
Frankfurt	DAX	4006.4	33.56	0.84	4021.08	3999.64	3972.84

#### Energy

Commodity	Last	Today
Coffee (c/lbs)	153.67	Spot
Cocoa (\$/ton)	1576	Spot
Sugar (\$/ton)	323	Spot
Wheat (\$/ton)	144	Spot
Soya (c/lbs)	21.84	Spot
Tea (c/lbs)	125	Spot
Barley (\$/bsh)	0	Spot
Rice (\$/ton)	480	Spot

#### JOD Cross Rates

Currency	Buy	Sell
US Dollar	0.708	0.710
GB Sterling	1.1833	1.1983
DE Mark	0.4031	0.4051
CH Franc	0.4839	0.4863
FR Franc	0.1196	0.1202
JP Yen	0.8245	0.8276
NL Guilder	0.3581	0.3589
IT Lira	0.414	0.4161

Source: Central Bank of Jordan.

### THE Daily Crossword

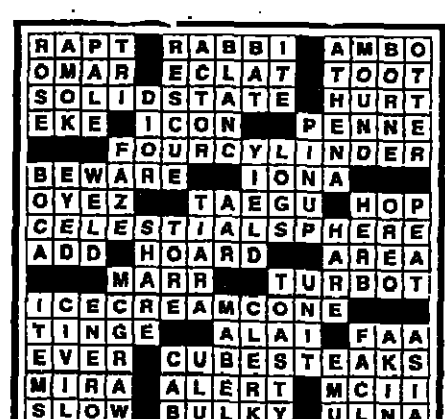
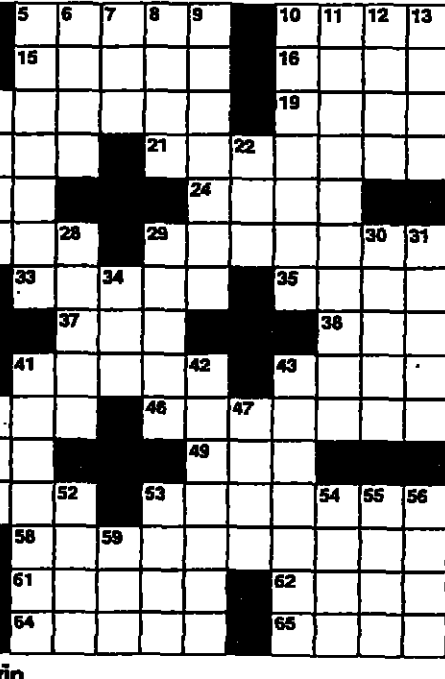
#### ACROSS

- 1 Birthday mail
- 5 "we all?"
- 10 Shoo
- 14 U.S. canal
- 15 More positive
- 16 Tractable
- 17 Biggest portion
- 20 Flat
- 21 Tablecloth fabrics
- 23 Charged particle
- 24 Dusting powder
- 25 Certain hounds
- 29 Abandons
- 32 Litter's litlest
- 33 Sombre
- 35 Barely cooked
- 36 401K kin
- 37 In the manner of
- 38 Cub's home
- 39 Speaker's platform
- 41 Bout site
- 43 Entreaty
- 44 Oval
- 46 Chair feature, often
- 48 Sow's supper?
- 49 Very
- 50 Answered
- 53 Military installation
- 57 Jai —
- 58 Lookout places
- 60 Hamster cousins
- 61 Doctrine
- 62 Hwy's
- 63 Social equal
- 64 Malmo native
- 65 Place

#### DOWN

- 1 Gael
- 2 Opera highlight
- 3 Melee
- 4 He cares for canines
- 5 Acquiesces
- 6 River to the Rhine
- 7 Notable time
- 8 Dweeb
- 9 Picked up the tab
- 10 Thief
- 11 String game
- 12 In a frenzy
- 13 Decimal units
- 18 Gin fruit
- 22 Family ladies
- 25 Wedding party member
- 26 Perceived by the ear
- 27 Slowness
- 28 Goggle
- 29 Hunt goddess
- 30 Forest members
- 31 French governing body
- 34 Mug filler
- 40 More inane
- 41 Angles
- 42 Skilled performer
- 43 Investigators
- 45 Luau food
- 47 A.M.
- 50 Turnpike access
- 51 Writer Wiesel
- 52 Siphoned
- 53 Inspired wonder
- 54 Italian commune
- 55 Printing direction
- 56 Latin 1 verb
- 59 United

by Diane C. Baldwin

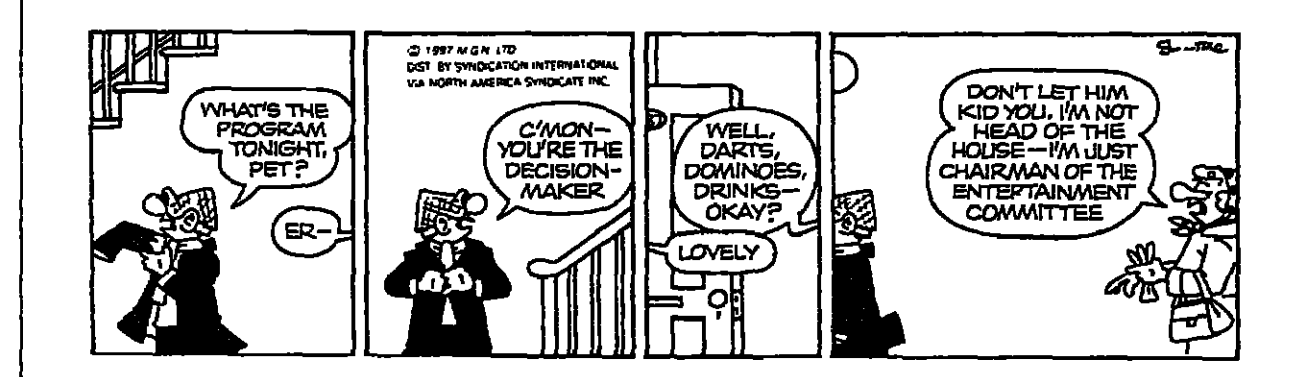


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### Peanuts



### Andy Capp



### Mutt'n'Jeff



### HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JULY 9, 1997

By Thomas S. Piers, Astrologer, Carrol Righter Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) A difficult out-of-town situation today will suddenly take a turn for the better, thereby making all of your efforts with career activities very productive. Keep your eyes and ears open for an opportunity to advance.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Be more aware of the needs of your mate today, and improve the situation at home considerably. Budget your money more carefully later this evening, thereby you will have funds or an emergency.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) A fellow business associate could be quite demanding today, however, this person is not to something big, so try to be patient and helpful. Later this evening you can meet close friends for recreational activities which are fun.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Try to be an inspiration to your fellow associates today, and improve productivity considerably and thereby you will get notice by a bigwig. Be sure to get plenty of rest later this evening so you can handle the hectic days ahead.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) If you are informed of a special entertainment in your area today, by all means attend it with close friends and your loved ones. Let your talents shine later this evening and you will get recognition from a superior.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) A family friend may ask for your assistance with a special project today, so don't hesitate to assist him or her. Be sure to drive very carefully on the highway and you can avoid any adverse situations.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Listen to the needs of your mate today, and try to please him or her more than usual and you will receive a great deal of recognition. You should not do anything which will jeopardize your reputation.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) A talent you scarcely every use can bring you some fine benefits today, so take advantage of the situation. Find a way to add to your present financial security and thereby have extra funds for the days ahead.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) That new project you have been considering can be put in motion today, if you get some help from a superior. Try to be more sure of yourself and thereby you will gain the recognition of a bigwig which can be beneficial.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) If you desperately need something for your home today, be willing to part with the money necessary to obtain it. Use a new approach in business matters which you have not tried before and could be quite beneficial.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) If you are polite and tactful today, you can get the support you need to put a new project in motion. Take some time later this evening for recreational activities with close friends, thereby everyone will have fun.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) With a little bit of effort today, you can start an enterprise of considerable magnitude and influence. You should not allow to interrupt your schedule of events, so proceed with full steam ahead.

Birthstone... of July: Pearl — Ruby — Tiger's Eye

### Middle East Insurance Company distributes dividends at the rate

THE MIDDLE EAST Insurance Co. is currently distributing dividends at a rate of 11.11 per cent on the general assembly.

The company's total revenues from insurance operations amounted to JD1.05 million at the end of 1996, compared to JD1.03 million at the end of 1995.

The company's net income for 1996 amounted to JD1.05 million, compared to JD1.03 million in 1995. The company's net income for 1996 was 11.11 per cent of the total revenues.

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The company's net income for



## Daily Beat

A review of news from the Arabic press

### Middle East Insurance Company distributing dividends at the rate of 11%

**\*\* THE MIDDLE EAST Insurance Company** posted a JD609,741 net profit before tax and the company is currently distributing JD244,444 in dividends at a rate of 11.11 per cent as approved by the general assembly.

Total revenues from insurance operations amounted to JD1.08 million at the end of 1996 compared to JD0.53 million at the end of 1995. By adding JD244,743 in other income, the total revenues and other income reached JD1.33 million. After taking into account general and administrative expenses, bad debts, provisions for decline in shares value and other tax and doubtful accounts' provisions, the net profit after tax stood at JD380,081 compared to JD330,763 in 1995.

Net income from the marine insurance was the highest at JD292,911 followed by net income of JD282,341 from motor insurance. The JD155,223 loss in general accidents insurance in 1995 was turned into a JD236,956 profit last year. Net income from fire and life insurance was JD182,772 and JD86,376 respectively. The funds earmarked for various investments reached a JD8.6 million at the end of 1996. Returns from these investments amounted to JD486,773 last year compared to JD519,097 in 1995.

Board chairman Wasef Azar told the shareholders that the rise in the number of insurance companies from 17 to 25 has put huge pressure on the insurance market where so many small companies are scrambling for a share in a limited market. He indicated that a decision will be taken soon to operate in the Palestinian self-rule territories and to reactivate the company's branch in Lebanon which stopped operations at the start of the civil war in that country.

According to the annual report, the company's assets totalled JD11.7 million at the end of last year and shareholders' equity was about JD2.96 million (Al Ra'i + Al Aswaj).

### Jordan Kuwait agriculture firm reports JD351,200 loss

**\*\* THE JORDAN Kuwait for Agricultural and Food Products Company** plans to restructure its capital after reducing the capital last year by the JD576,900 of accumulated losses as of the end of 1995, and then raising the capital to the level that will enable the company to lessen its indebtedness and finance its future projects. At the forefront of these projects is the tissue culture propagation.

The company's sales of fertilisers amounted to JD336,300 providing a gross profit of about JD61,000 which turned into a loss of JD351,200 after taking into account various expenses and provisions as well as depreciation. Such a loss reduced the shareholders' equity at the end of 1996 to JD801,500.

According to the annual profit, the company paid JD140,700 in bank interest and commission. Fixed assets were with JD762,300 in addition to the tissue project which was valued at JD1.2 million (Al Aswaj).

## Europe, sidelining U.S., urges some state control of electronic commerce

**BONN (AFP)** — European officials Tuesday called for some state regulation of electronic commerce to ensure that global information networks fulfill their potential, setting themselves apart from U.S. calls for a free Internet.

They issued a ministerial declaration on global information networks after U.S. Commerce Secretary William Daley called on governments worldwide to limit regulation of electronic commerce to a minimum, at a two-day conference held here.

"Governments should make a minimum amount of intrusion in the sector," Mr. Daley said, adding that the private sector must take the lead. "Governments should take a step back —

and work with the private sector."

Government officials from across the world met to seek guidelines for the use of the Internet, amid fears that overregulation could kill the whole system.

U.S. President Bill Clinton recommended last week that the Internet be declared a "free-trade zone" without taxation, and called for a global agreement on the matter within 12 months.

The Bonn conference discussed encrypting data, invoicing systems, how to protect private data and intellectual property rights.

Jurisdiction and taxation of commercial transactions was also on the agenda.

Government officials acknowledge the need for a balance between law

enforcement and security

opportunities of the market. Mr. Daley told a news conference. "This is a very difficult question."

Mr. Daley said he expected electronic commerce to create more jobs and opportunities over the next years as it continues to develop, with 20 per cent of people worldwide expected to be connected to the net 15 years from now.

Ministers from 29 east and west European countries as well as Cyprus said in a joint declaration that the private sector was playing a key role in electronic commerce, but called on governments to also play an active part.

German Economics Minister Guenter Rexrodt said state interference should

only apply when absolutely necessary.

Business leaders attending the two-day conference said in a final statement that regulations should be as light-handed as possible.

Ministers pledged to work to protect intellectual property rights and recognised the importance of the availability of strong encryption technology for electronic commerce.

International availability and free choice of cryptography products are to be achieved.

Ministers agreed that the use of information networks in violation of the law, notably for pornography and money-laundering purposes, will continue to be punished, Mr. Rexrodt said.

On the controversial issue of legal responsibility of Internet access providers, ministers said they should not, in general, be responsible for the contents of messages if there is no reason to believe that they could be illegal.

Reasonable control guidelines should be set, however.

The issue touches on pornography, pedophile, racist and violent material.

This point was in contradiction to U.S. calls for a free Internet after the U.S. Supreme Court last month ruled unconstitutional a communications decency act seeking to ban indecent material on the web.

The court said the act would have a "chilling effect" on free speech.

The only aspect the U.S. administration plans to regulate is the export of encryption software. Congress is debating a bill that would limit overseas sales of programmes protecting network communications with passwords for tapping into messages.

Some fear that widespread use of encryption based on uncrackable codes will hamstring law enforcement and promote terrorism, unless law enforcement authorities hold the keys to the codes.

European ministers said equal access to all information nets was key so as to "avoid a division between information 'haves' and 'have nots', in Europe and globally."

## Paris tops Tokyo as world's most expensive city — survey

**TOKYO (AFP)** — Tokyo was replaced by Paris as the city with the world's highest living costs, the Japanese trade ministry said in a survey report on Tuesday.

Prices in Tokyo stood 98 per cent of those in Paris in the three months to last March, compared with 108 per cent in the previous year's survey, the ministry said in the annual report.

It also showed that Tokyo's prices were 127 per cent of those in New York, down from 146 per cent the previous year.

Falling prices in Tokyo reflected a decline in the yen's value against other major currencies, ministry officials said.

Tokyo's prices also came to 106 per cent of those in London and 146 per cent of those in Singapore, according to the latest report.

The survey covered 93 items of consumer

goods and services including taxes, and was based on the yen's average exchange rate against the dollar and other currencies in the three months to March.

The latest survey was carried out before Japan's consumption tax was raised from three per cent to five per cent on April 1.

Japan's Inter-national Trade and Industry Ministry started the annual survey in 1989, to monitor price gaps with Tokyo, notorious for being the world's most expensive city, and other major cities.

The latest survey showed that although the overall price gaps narrowed, there remained some major differences in the energy sector such as gasoline and gas charges, ministry officials said.

On the other side, prices of cameras, consumer electronics and automobiles were cheap in Tokyo, they said.

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TELEPHONE: 607171 / 607179												
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 06/07/1997												
PAST 12 MONTHS HIGH	PAST 12 MONTHS LOW	COMPANY'S NAME	P / E	DIV.	NO. OF TRANS.	NO. OF SHARES	VALUE TRADED	OPEN PRICE	CLOSE PRICE	CHANGE		
269,000	213,000	ARAB BANK	12.1	1.52	4	200	52900	263.00	264.00	1.00	+	
N	2,340	JOR. NATIONAL BK.	8	0.00	18	13970	28719	2.06	2.05	-0.01	-	
	3,600	BANK OF JORDAN	6.8	0.00	8	50300	163484	3.30	3.25	-0.05	-	
	4,180	JOR. KAWAYAT BANK	10.7	0.00	2	62	186	3.02	3.00	-0.02	-	
	1,050	JOR. GULF BANK	5.1	8.14	2	2000	1720	0.85	0.86	0.01	+	
	4,050	JOR. ISLAMIC BANK	15.3	3.18	6	1384	5208	3.76	3.77	0.01	+	
	1,800	UNION BK. SAV. INV.	P	0.00	3	1100	1276	1.18	1.16	-0.02	-	
	3,800	JOR. INV. FUND BANK	19.9	0.00	3	1100	3410	3.09	3.10	0.01	+	
BANK SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 206.54	%CHG: +0.23	46	70115	256901					
	2,350	JOR. FRENCH INSUR.	4.7	12.05	5	1296	2151	1.66	1.66	0.00	-	
	2,470	TAMKOK INSUR.	10.3	7.73	1	150	291	1.85	1.94	0.09	+	
	2,200	ARAB LIFE INSUR.	6.2	4.76	1	100	210	2.20	2.10	-0.10	-	
INSURANCE SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 113.32	%CHG: -0.28	7	1546	2652					
	1,620	JOR. ELECTRIC PWR.	8.0	6.06	4	2000	3304	1.65	1.65	0.00	-	
	2,780	HIMER MATERIALS	12.4	6.37	1	250	613	2.55	2.45	-0.10	-	
	2,650	SHIPPING LINES	15.4	4.91	6	20993	55129	2.65	2.65	0.00	-	
	1,420	KHEL. PORTFOLIO	9	0.00	24	8500	11563	1.38	1.37	-0.01	-	
	1,030	REAL ESTATE INV.	11.8	7.06	1	150	128	0.86	0.85	-0.01	-	
	810	JORDAN INTL. TRAD.	26.7	0.00	3	1000	518	0.50	0.52	0.02	+	
	1,910	KID. EAST HOTELS	18.4	0.00	4	4600	5529	1.25	1.21	-0.04	-	
	3,720	ARAB INTL. INV. EDUC.	7.7	0.00	3	2050	6007	2.94	2.93	-0.01	-	
	1,220	SARNA EDUCATION	9	0.00	2	650	605	0.93	0.93	0.00	-	
	1,010	UNION LAND DEV.	9	0.00	2	300	204	0.68	0.68	0.00	-	
SERVICE SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 107.39	%CHG: -0.24	52	40545	83847					
	4,450	JOR. CEMENT FACT.	27.5	2.70	38	43758	178407	4.08	4.08	0.00	-	
	4,140	JOR. PETROPHASE MINES	11.1	2.90	2	122	488	4.08	4.00	-0.08	-	
	10,250	JOR. PETROL. REFINERY	9.5	9.07	17	1328	13042	9.83	9.80	-0.03	-	
	3,210	INDUSTRIAL COM. AG.	9	0.00	6	924	1674	1.84	1.81	-0.03	-	
+	7,180	JOR. WORTHELY HILLS	9.9	3.25	1	150	923	6.30	6.15	-0.15	-	
	4,100	ARAB PHARM. IND.	10.8	5.09	19	4877	18414	3.94	3.93	-0.01	-	
	5,650	DAR ALADWA DV. INV.	13.0	4.72	2	272	1438	5.30	5.30	0.00	-	
	960	480	LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	9.7	0.00	4	2250	1495	0.46	0.46	0.00	-
	1,310	ARAB PAPER CONV. TRD.	30.6	0.00	2	300	300	1.02	1.00	-0.02	-	
	1,770	NATIONAL INDUS.	9	0.00	1	250	528	0.51	0.51	0.00	-	
	1,330	EXPRESS PETRO. CHEM.	9	0.00	24	31100	16233	0.52	0.53	0.01	+	
	1,090	JOR. ROCCOOL INDUS.	9	0.00	3	2450	1397	0.57	0.57	0.00	-	
	950	JOR. SULPHO-CHEM	9	0.00	7	4250	2338	0.55	0.55	0.00	-	
	1,670	ARAB PHARM. CHEM.	17.5	5.11	1	250	343	1.37	1.37	0.00	-	
	1,430	KAMMER INVEST.	89.7	0.00	2	150	137	0.96	0.92	-0.04	-	
	2,020	UNIV. NORD. INDUS.	14.7	9.21	5	1200	1443	1.21	1.20	-0.01	-	
	1,520	1,090	JOR. TRDS. RESOURCES	14.7	9.17	5	2450	2587	1.09	1.09	0.00	-
	1,500	1,300	KHEL. CHEMIST	14.8	4.67	5	200	300	1.58	1.50	-0.08	-
+	1,090	820	JOR. NEW CABLE CO.	14.8	0.00	26	16100	13060	0.82	0.81	-0.01	-
	2,090	1,420	EL -RAY READY WEAR	51.0	0.00	4	586	856	1.47	1.45	-0.02	-
	1,330	1,080	WEL. POLITY	5	0.00	5	7000	7686	1.09	1.09	0.00	-
	1,260	860	UNION CH. & VEG.	39.6	0.00	3	2100	1828	0.87	0.87	0.00	-
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 127.26	%CHG: -0.39	178	122917	264613					
GRAND TOTAL			INDEX: 161.02	%CHG: -0.06	283	235124	608012					
PARALLEL MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 06/07/1997												
	840	350	CENTRAL GEN. STORAGE	9	0.00	7	2500	954	0.37	0.39	0.02	+
	670	410	JOR. TRADE FCL	11.7	0.00	10	21900	9638	0.44	0.44	0.00	-
	1,550	1,070	ZARA FOR INVESTMENT	45.9	0.00	1	1000	1120	1.07	1.12	0.05	+
	840	650	UNION INV. 501	9	0.00	8	22000	3960	0.68	0.68	0.00	-
	650	370	ARAB FID. INVEST.	9	0.00	26	22399	10303	0.45	0.46	0.01	+
N	950	720	AL-SHARQ INV. 751	9	0.00	4	16000	8480	0.78	0.78	0.00	-
	950	610	AL-DAMASTAR 751	59.5	0.00	5	20500	7590	0.63	0.62	-0.01	-
	730	510	KHEL. CHEMIST	11	0.00	11	7150	2103	0.28	0.28	0.00	-
	730	510	ARAB FOOD & MED.	9	0.00	13	6995	3706	0.52	0.53	0.01	+
	590	390	ARAB INTL. INV. TRD.	44.9	0.00	12	9550	3708	0.39	0.39	0.00	-
	720	450	KHEL. CHEMIST	9	0.00	1	100	47	0.45	0.47	0.02	+
N	960	900	KHEL. CHEMIST	9	0.00	33	133289	71977	0.53	0.54	0.01	+
	720	450	KHEL. CHEMIST	9	0.00	1	200	186	0.93	0.93	0.00	-
	880	710	JORDAN STEEL	33.9	0.00	1	200	180	0.75	0.75	0.00	-
	580	430	WEL. POLITY	5	0.00	1	500	250	0.50	0.50	0.00	-
	730	600	MID-EAST FARM. 751	9	0.00	3	1250	463	0.62	0.62	0.00	-
	1,220	860	UNION TORACCO 751	9	0.00	10	3444	1411	0.56	0.56	0.00	-
	1,680	950	BALY FARM. 851	9	0.00	10	3444	1411	0.56	0.56	0.00	-
	600	380	INDUS. ENG.	22.8	0.00	2	450	167	0.37	0.37	0.00	-
	860	780	INDUS. CHEMICAL	28.0	0.00	2	1000	780	0.78	0.78	0.00	-
	820	590	KHEL. POLITY	5	0.00	1	250	158	0.62	0.63	0.01	+
N	1,000	770	WAT. ALUMINIUM. 751	9	0.00	14	6600	3442	0.77	0.77	0.00	-
	870	530	KID. EAST COMPLEX	7.9	15.63	13	31100	19594	0.63	0.64	0.01	+
GRAND TOTAL					183	309477	150652					







## Ridiculed Tyson faces judgement day

LAS VEGAS (AFP) — Mike Tyson has become a scorned object of ridicule across the United States even as a panel here prepares to meet and decide his boxing future.

The five-member Nevada State Athletic Commission Disciplinary Board meets here Wednesday to determine what punishment to give Tyson for biting the ears of Evander Holyfield in their heavyweight title fight 10 days ago.

Tyson apologised and hinted at some type of therapy or counselling to dim the raging fury dwelling within him, an anger that erupted in the ring against Holyfield.

"The thing I liked about the apology was that he said he needed some psychological and psychiatric treatment," Commission Chairman Elias Ghanem said. "As a doctor I think that is significant."

But that will not keep Tyson from punishment. The World Boxing Association decided Monday to drop him from its rankings because he is under suspension by Nevada officials, whose decision looms.

"The apology doesn't change what happened in the ring," Ghanem said.

The incident has made Tyson a running joke with television comedians. At a celebrity softball game Monday in Cleveland, where Tyson keeps his main home, a mock ear-biting scene and faux apology was played out for humour.

The Hollywood wax museum has removed Tyson's figure from the sports section and placed it in the "monsters" area adjacent to cinematic cannibal Hannibal Lector.

A music-video cable television channel had a "bite countdown" of songs Monday that included "another one bites the dust" by Queen, "Maneater" by Hall and Oates and "Love Bites" by Def Leppard.

The bite has been used by activists from causes as diverse as economic reform and racism to show Tyson as a product of problems beyond his control.

The commission plans to



Mike Tyson

exert control. What Tyson does after that will decide the course of his life in and out of the ring.

"The kid needs help," said trainer Angelo Dundee, who has guided Sugar Ray Leonard and Muhammad Ali among others. "He needs psychological help. I don't know where it's going to come from. But he needs it."

Many in boxing, including Tyson's first co-manager, Bill Cayton, suggest a split from promoter Don King and long-time pals Rory Holloway and John Horne as a strong first step in changing the direction of Tyson's life.

"Tyson's problems are 99 per cent Don King," Cayton said. "Mike had a chance to regain his self-esteem. Now he has no self-esteem."

All his frustrations came to a head that night. "There are too many guys around him," agreed Dundee.

Tyson has not been the same fighter since spending three years in prison for rape, but he had intimidated lacklustre foes until losing his World Boxing Association title to Holyfield last November.

"Complete frustration took hold," Dundee said. "He didn't want to get

knocked out. He didn't want to get shown up worse than he was in the first fight."

Now all that remains is the length of Tyson's banishment, which could range anywhere from a year to life.

"Anything over 12 months would be disastrous," trainer Emanuel Steward said. "His style of fighting is a youth style, not laid back like a Sugar Ray or Ali."

At 31, any lengthy ban would dim Tyson's chances to reclaim his title. And whatever penalty he faces will likely be accompanied by mandatory mental examinations.

For more important to Tyson in the long run is trying to reclaim his dignity and honour. That fight will be with his past and his own dark side.

It could last a lifetime with no hope of a knockout to erase the memory of the bites or a rape conviction. There would be no prize money but what is at stake is something all his millions could not purchase — respect.

And that battle would be lost in a single moment of anger.

Facing that challenge might make Holyfield seem a tame foe by comparison.

## Tour de France

## Zabel powers into contention in 3rd stage

PLUMELEC, France (AFP) — Erik Zabel of Germany moved into contention in the Tour de France when he powered through to win the 217km third stage from Vire to here on Tuesday.

Mario Cipollini of Italy, who won sprint finishes in the previous two stages, kept the leader's yellow jersey but lost the points green jersey to the German, who was helped home by defending champion Bjarne Riis of Denmark who finished third.

Zabel, last year's points winner and a winner of two stages each of the last two years, surged past Frank Vandenbroucke of Belgium in the last 30 metres with Riis, Laurent Jalabert of France and Italy's Davide Rebellin following him home.

His win moved him up from eighth to second place, 25sec behind the Italian, pushing Britain's Chris Boardman down to third, ahead of Jan Ullrich, another German teammate of Riis.

Riis, who had blasted his team for failing to help him when he was held up by a mass pileup in Sunday's stage, was in a better mood today.

"I'm feeling fine. I'm confident," he said.

Former world hour record-holder Tony Rominger's seventh and last Tour ended when he broke his right collarbone in a multiple pileup 5km from the end of the stage.

The 37-year-old Swiss rider, three-times a tour of Spain winner, had been brought in by Cofidis to replace former world champion Lance Armstrong when the America went down with cancer.

"It's difficult to avoid those types of falls as everyone's trying to get to



Italy's yellow jersey holder Mario Cipollini (C) leads the pack as the riders leave Vire for the 224km third stage of the Tour de France cycling race between Vire and Plumelec (Reuters photo)

the front," Cipollini said.

Most of the stage had seen the pack chasing down a breakaway group of four riders, which ended when

Francois Simon of France broke clear 19km from the finish only to be caught 5km short of his goal.

The 28-year-old Simon,

normally to be found helping out teammates Boardman or France's Frederic Moncassin, had taken part in the earlier four-man

breakaway.

Orlando Rodrigues of Portugal, Danny Nelissen of the Netherlands, Gianluca Bortolami of Italy and Simon pulled clear after 84km and built up a 3min 10sec gap.

The lead would have given Nelissen the leader's Yellow Jersey and Cipollini ordered his Saeco team to chase them down.

All four had something to prove but with 30km to go the pack had reduced the gap to 90 seconds.

That was still enough to give Nelissen, who had started the day in 19th position — one minute behind Cipollini — the Yellow Jersey but breakaway riders usually need a lead of one minute for every 10km left to hope to finish ahead of the chasing pack.

The four men refused to surrender, however, and buckled down to the job of hanging onto the slender lead.

Then, 19km from the finish, Simon sprinted clear. The other three riders were soon reeled in by the peloton and Simon's brave attack was ruthlessly chased down.

The 26-year-old Nelissen is making his second stab at professional cycling. He returned to the non-paid ranks in 1995 to win the World Amateur Championship in Colombia and returned to the pro ranks last year.

Mozambique-born Rodrigues, a 28-year-old riding in his second tour, lost the 13th stage last year by two seconds to Denmark's Rolf Sorensen.

The 29-year-old Bortolami has been plagued by bad luck for the last three years, suffering from glandular fever, a broken bone in his elbow and a broken pelvis.

## Lewis supports Stockholm 2004 Olympic bid

STOCKHOLM (R) — Nine times Olympic champion Carl Lewis has joined a group of elite athletes pledging public support for the Stockholm 2004 Olympic bid.

The athletes, headed by former world triple jump record holder Willie Banks and former Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg, believe Stockholm would provide the best facilities and environment for the 2004 Games.

Stockholm, Rome, Athens, Cape Town and Buenos Aires are on the final shortlist of cities bidding to host the games. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) will choose the winning city in Lausanne on September 5.

Lewis, who anchored the Santa Monica Track Club quartet to victory in Monday evening's Stockholm Grand Prix, told a news conference on Tuesday he had visited each of the bidding cities.

"I am supporting this bid because I know this community," Lewis said. "I knew this community before the Olympics was an issue."

His sentiments were endorsed by banks, the inspiration behind the initiative.

Banks said he had come up with the idea to support Stockholm after it made the shortlist and had then talked to a number of other athletes, including Lewis.

"We want the world to know that the best city for the athletes will be Stockholm," banks said.

Santa Monica Manager Joe Douglas said Lewis



Nine times Olympic champion Carl Lewis addresses a press conference where he pledges public support for the Stockholm 2004 Olympic bid (Reuters photo)

was not being paid to endorse the bid and added the bid organisers had not paid the club's travelling costs.

A statement from the athletes said a committee, called the International Athletes' Council, had been formed to support the bid, comprising 53 athletes from around the world in 22 Olympic disciplines.

"We, the athletes of the council, have compared the perfect weather in Stockholm, the clean air and water and believe these fac-

tors all support the victory for Stockholm 2004," the statement said.

The council also includes Haile Gebrselassie, who set a world 10,000 metres record in Oslo on Friday, and Wilson Kipketer, who equalled the world 800 record here on Monday.

Kipketer told the crowd in the Olympic stadium after the race that he did not know if he would run here next year.

But he added: "I plan to be here in the year 2004 at the Olympics."

## Waddle takes over at Burnley

LONDON (AFP) — Former England winger Chris Waddle started his managerial career on Tuesday when he signed a contract with Second Division club Burnley.

Waddle, who succeeds Adrian Heath, has agreed a three-year deal at Turf Moor as a player-manager. Waddle's assistant will be former Watford Manager Glenn Roeder, who was a teammate of his at Newcastle.

Waddle, who had long stints with Newcastle, Spurs, French club Marseille and Sheffield Wednesday, said he had followed his instincts in joining Burnley.

"It wasn't a hard decision by any means," he said. "I'm a believer in following your feelings and it just feels right."

"I've always been impressed with Burnley as a club, the way they have brought through young players and consistently tapped into such vast support."

Waddle intends to play on as well as manage a team he considers to have "immense potential".

He arrives two weeks after Heath's shock departure to become No.2 to Howard Kendall at Everton.

Waddle, who won 62 England caps, was released by Sheffield Wednesday last summer and had a brief spell with Falkirk last September before playing for Bradford and Sunderland late in the season.

It is more than 20 years since Burnley last played in the highest echelons of English football. The club was last in the old first division from 1973-76.

Burnley were league champions in 1959-60 and played in the European Cup the following year.

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**Babiche**

Babiche announces that the employment of **Ayyoub Mohammed Mahmoud Tashtah** at Babiche has been terminated and he is no longer in the employ of Babiche at Shmeisani or Abdoun. Babiche also declares that it is not responsible for his actions or any contacts or arrangements with others in the name of Babiche or in the name of **Fares Taddros & Partner Company** or in the name of **Lana Nicola Sabanagh Company**, and none of the above named companies shall be held responsible legally or administratively after the publication of this announcement.

**J.T. Fax: 696183**

**UNITED NATIONS** **NATIONS UNIES**

THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF & WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST IS RECRUITING AT ITS HEADQUARTERS IN AMMAN:

Chief, Social Services Division, GRADE 20. (VNHQ (A) 18/97) FIXED TERM APPOINTMENT.

(Monthly take home pay ranges from JD1031 to JD1587 plus dependency allowance; plus monthly provident fund ranging from JD215 to JD332 payable at the end of service; compulsory medical insurance).

**DUTIES:** The incumbent of this post is the Agency's senior social development professional, reporting directly to the Director of Relief and Social Services, managing a team of three social development experts at Headquarters and technically responsible for development social welfare programmes and projects implemented by field staff in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Palestinian Territories of the West Bank and Gaza. The social services programme includes community development and institution building; poverty alleviation; women in development; community-based rehabilitation and integration of persons with disabilities; and family casework. The Chief, Social Services Division is responsible for input into policy formulation; situation analyses and needs assessments; appropriate strategies and specific objectives; technical guidelines for policy implementation; training of social workers and programme managers in the five field offices; indicators for programme monitoring; and evaluation of programme impact and achievement. S/he coordinates with other UNRWA programmes and inter-governmental and non-governmental partners in joint social development ventures, and represents the Agency at relevant United Nations and other professional conferences. Administratively, s/he is responsible for the Office budget, and advises on staffing, logistical and other resource needs.

**QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:** University degree in social welfare or related field, with special emphasis on the application of social work insights and methodologies to developmental programmes, with at least ten years experience in applying that knowledge including: 1) Practical experience in planning, implementation and evaluation in one or more of the following sectors: community development and institution building, poverty alleviation, rehabilitation and integration of the disabled, developmental women's programmes; and in training local counterparts to run such programmes. 2) At least five years in a senior supervisory capacity in a large international, governmental or non-governmental organisation promoting developmental social services. Excellent command of written and spoken English and Arabic and first-rate communication skills.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:** Thorough knowledge of the Near East environment and cultures; post-graduate degree or diploma directly relevant to one or more aspects of the social services listed above; computer literacy. Will be required to travel extensively in the Agency's area of operations in the Near East. Candidates are requested to submit a detailed UNRWA Personal History form and recent photograph not later than 24 July 1997 to: UNRWA Headquarters Amman, Attention: Personnel Officer, by Fax No. 826177 or by hand.

Full consideration will be given to disabled candidates whose disability does not mitigate the effective performance of the duties of the job. Normally many applications are received. Only those applicants in whom the Agency has a further interest will be contacted.



